



ST. LUCIE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 2017

Annual Report



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ST. LUCIE COUNTY Board OF County COMMISSIONERS



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SLCTV is available on Comcast 28 and U-Verse 99. St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners Meetings are televised live on the first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. and the third Tuesday at 9 a.m. Additionally, Code Compliance Board meetings are televised on the first Wednesday at 9 a.m., while the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting are broadcast on the third Thursday at 6 p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNTY COMMISSION CHAIR

Dear Residents, Business Owners and Visitors,

In today's "digital age," annual reports almost seem obsolete. St. Lucie County has been utilizing various mediums to communicate directly with our 300,000-plus residents throughout the year. Whether that means streaming media briefings from the Emergency Operations Center to Facebook Live or televising various committee meetings on local cable networks and via our website – we believe in providing access to the public.

While we embrace new technologies and formats to share information and be transparent, it's reassuring to see an annual document that recounts the previous year's major accomplishments. It's St. Lucie County's opportunity to show our residents and visitors that we continue to be fiscally responsible with their tax dollars. The Board of County Commissioners is making sure we remain focused on our county's mission statement: To provide service, infrastructure and leadership necessary to advance a safe and sustainable community, maintain a high quality of life, and protect the natural environment for all our citizens.

St. Lucie County's renewed focus on economic development and diversifying our job market is paying off. Last year, we've seen hundreds of new jobs in the manufacturing sector. Local companies are expanding their facilities; which increases property values and creates jobs. On the training and education fronts, our schools and colleges are making significant strides and gaining statewide and national attention.

One of St. Lucie County's biggest challenges continues to be pressures placed on us from both the State and Federal levels. Unfunded mandates and unnecessary bureaucracy from Tallahassee and Washington can hamper our ability to move St. Lucie County forward. Your County Commissioners understand that "home rule" is of the utmost importance to our local residents. After all – you are the ones that voted us into office and we are here to listen to your concerns.

In the past decade, St. Lucie County has earned more than 100 regional, state and national awards. Yet, we won't stop trying to make this community better. Because for many of our employees – St. Lucie County isn't just where we work – it's where we live.

Please take a few minutes to read what St. Lucie County's dedicated and hard-working staff has accomplished this past year. If you have questions or concerns, please join us for one of our Board of County Commission meetings or stop by Coffee with the Chair in the SLCTV Studio on the fourth Friday of each month at 8:30 a.m. and share your concerns.

Sincerely,

Frannie Hutchinson
Frannie Hutchinson
St. Lucie County Commission Chair





AIRPORT

The Treasure Coast International Airport and Business Park consists of seven employees who manage the 3,600-acre complex.

- ◇ Added a flight school with six aircraft for a total of 63.
- ◇ Fourth year in a row with more than 150,000 annual operations (first year with more than 160,000).
- ◇ Increased based aircraft from 280 to 308 (approximately) including five new jets
- ◇ Third year in a row of no hangar vacancy (100 percent capacity) .
- ◇ Completed U.S. Customs transition from temporary terminal operations to renovated new building with zero interruption in service.
- ◇ Completed Taxiway Connector G project under budget.
- ◇ Partnered with St. Lucie Economic Development Council to host events and multiple visits for interested parties as well as attending key industry conferences.
- ◇ Welcomed Fly The Whale - the first scheduled air service in recent years.
- ◇ Served as aeronautics/physics judge at the St. Lucie County 2017 STEM Science Fair.
- ◇ Partnered with Environmental Resources Department to complete required airport environmental projects saving the airport tens of thousands on consultant fees.
- ◇ Awarded the 2017 Fltplan.com Pilot's Choice Award for "Best U.S. Customs & Border Protection" facility in the country .
- ◇ Began the design of the 30,000-square-foot Manufacture, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) Hangar.
- ◇ Began the rehabilitation of the airport Navajds.
- ◇ Completed the design for the re-alignment of TWY D1.
- ◇ Completed the design for the rehabilitation of Curtis King Boulevard and the Terminal Parking lot.
- ◇ Acquired an FDOT Joint Participation Agreement to construct a new segmented circle adjacent to the training runway.
- ◇ Began the Airport Master Plan and Airport Layout Plan update.

ST. LUCIE COUNTY BOCC Administration

St. Lucie County Administration consists of Administration, Legislative Affairs, Communications, Tourism and the Research Park. Led by the County Administrator and two Deputy Administrators with a support staff of three, County Administration is responsible for seeing that the policies set forth by the Board of County Commissioners are carried out by the various county departments and divisions.

- ◇ Negotiated the purchase of the King Maritime Terminal and a 10-percent interest in the 67-acre tract inside the Port of Fort Pierce at a cost of \$25 million. This purchase will be play key role in the redevelopment of the port with a focus on the mega-yacht industry.
- ◇ Hosted two public workshops for the recreation of a Local Arts Agency
- ◇ Collaboration with Federal Railway Administration to maximize safety/equipment enhancements by All Aboard Florida to county crossings
- ◇ Headed the emergency efforts during Hurricane Irma with the county received high marks for our disaster response by state and federal agencies.
- ◇ Encouraged St. Lucie County staff to get involved with local non-profits through employees giving, including roughly \$58,000 raised for United Way of St. Lucie County; \$11,500 for Making Strides Against Breast Cancer and hundreds of dollars and items donated to Voices of Children; Boys & Girls Club; Treasure Coast Navy League; Grace Packs; Gingers Pets Food Pantry; Pace Center for Communications



COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

The Communications Division handles internal and external communications for all county departments/divisions under the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners. With a staff of four, the division produces and maintains all press releases, websites, social media accounts and SLCTV – the county's government access channel (Comcast 28 / U-Verse 99).

- ◊ Worked with the St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce and the St. Lucie Mets to create a new monthly television show, *Covering the Bases*, which focuses on area non-profits.
- ◊ Launched two new social media platforms (Instagram and Nextdoor).
- ◊ Responded to more than 175 public records requests.
- ◊ Utilized the county's social media channels to disseminate information during Hurricane Irma with daily briefings from the Emergency Operations Center being streamed live to Facebook, reaching more than 150,000 residents.
- ◊ Experienced a 25% increase in website hits pushing the monthly average from 80,111 to 100,637 visits.
- ◊ Earned a 2017 Florida Public Relations Association (FPRA) State Golden Image Awards: Award of Distinction and a 2017 Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) Palm Beach Chapter: Award of Excellence in the Crisis Communications category for Hurricane Matthew efforts.
- ◊ Attained a 2017 Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) Palm Beach Chapter: Award of Excellence in the Social Media category for its Facebook video of the sinking of the Tug Kathleen
- ◊ Secured a 2017 Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) Palm Beach Chapter: Award of Quality in the Audio/Video category for Decision 2016: Candidate Forum (produced in partnership with the St. Lucie County League of Women Voters and WPSL 1590 AM).



LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

- ◊ Successful in securing close to \$190 million in state appropriations directly and indirectly to St. Lucie County, including:
 - ◊ Teague Hammock Preserve received \$400,000 to provide an additional 300-acres of groundwater recharge that will reclaim agriculture water discharge, restore priority wetland habitat for threatened and endangered species, and reduce State and local invasive exotic management costs.
 - ◊ The Ardie R. Copas Veterans' Nursing Home received more than \$30 million for the construction of the 120-bed nursing home to be built in Tradition.
- ◊ Nearly \$100 million in transportation infrastructure projects within St. Lucie County.
- ◊ Final Chief's Report for the St. Lucie County south beach nourishment project achieved, the project is awaiting Congressional authorization
- ◊ Secured nearly \$6 million in the Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year 2017 Work Plan to nourish Fort Pierce Beach in spring 2018
- ◊ SAND Act introduced in the House and Senate to authorize the Corps of Engineers to consider non-domestic offshore sand when constructing federal beach projects.

TOURISM

The primary role of the tourism office (Visit St. Lucie) is to market St. Lucie County and its cities as a tourist destination and to promote assets, activities and experiences that will generate new or repeat visitors, thereby creating a positive economic impact for the County.

The Tourism Division is responsible for developing and implementing marketing plans and strategies, in coordination with State and local agencies as well as industry partners. The division also coordinates innovative programs and works to promote and expand tourism events & businesses in the community.

The division is funded by the 5 percent tourist tax (bed tax) that is collected on accommodations rented for six months or less. The funds and the division plans and activities are overseen by the St. Lucie County Tourist Development Council (TDC) – a nine member advisory board made up of local elected officials, hospitality professionals and tourism-related community members. The TDC serves as an advisory committee to the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners.



2017 Accomplishments:

- ◇ Increased tourist tax revenue by 6.3 percent over the year prior, collecting \$3.9 million and setting another new high for the fourth consecutive year.
- ◇ Completed the county's first-ever year-long visitor tracking and economic impact study – welcoming nearly 1.2 million visitors and generating \$520.5 million in direct economic impact to the County.
- ◇ Launched a new responsive design, search engine optimized website that integrates user-generated content, social media engagement and dynamic shareable & inspirational content.
- ◇ In partnership with the county's Environmental Resources Department and state and local partners, created an ecotourism development plan that prioritizes key initiatives to expand nature and outdoor activities and programs.
- ◇ Developed the Treasure Coast Wine & Ale Trail in partnership with Indian River County tourism and industry partners to promote 8 craft breweries and one winery. Components includes website, social media, printed marketing and public relations activities.
- ◇ Through the new agreement with the New York Mets, the tourism office improved the County's exposure in the New York market by increasing its presence at Citi Field with an annual media package valued at more than \$400,000. Campaign includes concourse signage, jumbotron spots, in-stadium activation, social media, program print ads, and more.
- ◇ In partnership with the St. Lucie County Chamber, Indian River Tourism and Martin County Tourism, expanded the annual Tourism Showcase to the "Treasure Coast Tourism Showcase," featuring more than 60 tourism-related vendors and welcoming over 1,000 local attendees to the event.
- ◇ Received a first-place "Henry" Flagler award for its #LovetheFort #LovethePort social media advocacy campaign. The Flagler awards are a statewide competition recognizing outstanding Florida tourism marketing. The program was created by VISIT FLORIDA, the state's tourism marketing organization, to honor tourism marketing professionals and offices that help position Florida as the No. 1 travel destination the world. Each year, the Flagler Awards pay tribute to the determined efforts of those who use their skill, resourcefulness, creativity and innovative spirit to market Florida.

Tourism Works for St. Lucie County



Not every St. Lucie County resident works in tourism, but tourism works for every resident. As the heartbeat of St. Lucie County, our vibrant tourism industry enhances citizens' day-to-day lives – and keeps more money in their paychecks, too. Students, young professionals and families all enjoy an improved quality of life thanks to our guests, and the revenue generated by tourism ensures future generations will enjoy living, working and playing in St. Lucie County just as much as we do. Learn why tourism works for us:



Provides
\$801.6 million
in economic impact¹



Generates
\$8.6 million
in local sales tax revenue²

Local Taxes from Tourism
Help Pay for Programs Important to
all St. Lucie County Residents:



Creates
7,965 Jobs
supported by tourism³

Pays
\$225.7 million
in compensation⁴





County Attorney

DEPARTMENT

The mission of the County Attorney’s Office is to provide the best legal representation and advice to the Board of County Commissioners and its staff, attend meetings of the Board and Board Advisory Committee meetings and various other meetings as directed, and provide legal services to the several constitutional officers.

- ◇ Represented the Board in all legal matters – F.S. 125; 119; 286.011
- ◇ Provided legal services to other constitutional officers – F.S. 125; 119; 286.011
- ◇ Provided acquisition services to the Board relating to all real property – FS. 125.35 – 125.42
- ◇ Developed, recommended, and implemented policies and strategies in the areas of criminal justice and public safety.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ◇ Processed 23 Ordinances; 285 Resolutions, 21 Public Records Requests; and 84 Tax Deed Overbid Claims
- ◇ Secured state grant for renovations to First Data Field
- ◇ Negotiated contract amendment with the Union
- ◇ Passed Bio-Solids Ordinance
- ◇ Provided legal advice in the purchase of the Indian River Terminal property at the Port of Fort Pierce for \$25 million.
- ◇ Provided legal advice in the All Aboard Florida issue to ensure safety measures were instituted.
- ◇ Provided Emergency Orders from the results of Hurricane Irma

PROPERTY ACQUISITIONS DIVISION

- ◇ Maintain original deeds and documents of properties acquired by the County for subdivisions, roads, easements, environmental lands, and various projects that take place in the County.
- ◇ Review Site Plans; process Petitions for Abandonments; and review Right-of-Way permits for utility providers.
- ◇ Prepare license agreements and reserve street names for the entire County for future developments.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ◇ Received and processed 200 +/- Right-of-Way Permits, 21 requests for License Agreements, and 8 Right-of-Way donations to St. Lucie County.
- ◇ Coordinated the due diligence necessary to acquire Indian River Terminal at the Port of Fort Pierce consisting of 12.34 acres for \$25 million.
- ◇ Acquired a 13.86 retention pond for Melville Road/White City area.
- ◇ Coordinated the Grant Agreements for reimbursement from Florida Communities Trust/Florida Department of Environmental Protection for Cypress Creek Preserve and Myers Stickel Property.
- ◇ Coordinated two Conservation Easements for Environmental Resources and 5 Easements for various County projects for Environmental Resources, Mosquito Control and Research Park (Sunshine Kitchen).
- ◇ Processed County held Tax Certificates.
- ◇ Transferred ownership of nine escheated parcels to the City of Fort Pierce.
- ◇ Processed an Abandonment of the Verano Master Plat, Abandonment of portions of the Plat of St. Claire City and Abandonment of ingress/egress rights-of-way in St. Lucie Gardens Plat.
- ◇ Renamed Battle Lake Drive to Fellowship Way and renamed Sun Citrus Boulevard to Steel Boulevard.



CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATOR

In August 2005, the County Attorney's Office acquired the Criminal Justice Coordinator position. This position has been implementing priorities established by the Public Safety Coordinating Council and the County. Additionally, the Criminal Justice Coordinator is responsible for implementing the criminal justice system assessment action plan, and carrying out the County's directives, which includes but is not limited to, gathering data, implementing initiatives and coordinating task forces. Furthermore, this position identifies areas that need improvement and develops strategies that impact the criminal justice system. During the year 2016, the St. Lucie County Pretrial program also had its first full year of supervising defendants in Okeechobee County. The Program continues to use GPS and enhanced supervision for release of medical cases from the jail (to reduce the cost to the County for on-going treatment, surgical procedures and terminal defendants). The daily GPS cost per unit is \$3.50 (down from \$8.00 per day in 2007), which provides for a tremendous savings when an inmate could cost several thousand dollars a day for medical care.



The Pretrial Program provides supervision for GPS cases, house arrest, curfew and non-GPS cases. Supervision is conducted 24/7 to insure compliance with court orders and other issues. Field supervision and residence checks are routinely done. Exclusion zones (for those wearing a GPS device) are set up for cases that are ordered to stay away from victims to restrict contact with the victim. Assist in coordinating with the defendant, victim and law enforcement for the removal of personal items in cases coordinating with the defendant, victim and law enforcement for the removal of personal items in cases where a no contact order is in place. Provide information to the courts when a case is not in compliance with court ordered conditions and immediate incarceration will result if any threat to public safety (positive drug test, GPS violation, victim contact, etc.) with the assistance of law enforcement.

ST. LUCIE COUNTY PRE-TRIAL / GPS PROGRAM

- ◇ 680 defendants supervised 24/7/365
- ◇ 3,241 field/residence checks
- ◇ 62,765 jail bed days saved (projected bed savings of \$5,648,850.00) * based on the rate of \$90.00 per day
- ◇ Inmate medical supervision to reduce medical costs to the jail and county

O K E E C H O B E E GPS PROGRAM

- ◇ 160 defendants supervised 24/7/365
- ◇ 551 field/residence checks done
- ◇ 10,398 jail bed days saved (projected bed savings of \$727,860.00) *based on the rate of \$70 per day
- ◇ Inmate medical supervision to reduce medical costs to the jail and county

Combined, the SLC Pretrial Program supervised 840 defendants in 2017. Saved a combined total of \$6,376,710 in bed day's savings or 73,163 bed days. Conducted 3,792 field/residence checks.



ST. LUCIE DRUG SCREENING LAB

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ◇ Open to the public with no appointment needed
- ◇ Operated on user fees; no taxpayer dollars used
- ◇ More than 26,000 drug tests performed at the SLC Lab and more than 5,700 drug tests performed at the Okeechobee Lab
- ◇ DOT Certified & Drug Free Work Place Testing for area businesses

On a daily basis, Lab staff collect and process drug tests for criminal defendants, Family Court cases, area businesses, DOT and the general public. Staff operates the chemical analyzer to run tests and disseminate results via online secure portal.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEMS POSITION

In addition to providing direct technical support for the St. Lucie County Pretrial Program and Drug Lab, daily technical support/development services is also provided for various agencies within the 19th Judicial Circuit including but not limited to Drug Court, Mental Health Court and Court Administration.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ◇ Expanded support for technology services to the 19th Judicial Circuit by providing direct hosting services to the Indian River County Substance Awareness Center:
- ◇ Services include a complete modernization of technology as it applies to managing drug test for Indian River County.
- ◇ Expanded staff to two analyst positions. This was a major accomplishment which not only provides expanded services/support to our current users, but provides all criminal justice stakeholders within St. Lucie County with the required long term support in meeting the challenges of the future.

HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION

The Human Services Division consists of six full-time employees. Day-to-day activities include administration and management of local, state and federal grants, including state mandates. Staff determine eligibility for appropriate grants and assists residents in accessing benefits.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Implementation of quarterly volunteer opportunities for Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) clients and their families. CSBG clients and their families have donated 70 hours to volunteer events throughout the community. The staff has also donated 110 hours. The goal is to help families build relationships, increase skill set, and give back to the community.
- For the second year in a row, St. Lucie County Community Services participated in the Christmas Purse Project. Community services extended the invitation to all county employees and were able to donate more than 170 purses filled with goodies to the project.
- After Hurricane Irma, St. Lucie County Community Services department received approximately 11 pallets of donated items with help from the New York and St. Lucie Mets. Staff coordinated the distribution of the donations to other social service agencies serving St. Lucie County residents.
- Received \$800,000 in grant funding for social service programs.
- Supported local partners in providing free volunteer income tax assistance to approximately 1,400 households, identifying more than \$600,000 in tax credits and providing opportunities for 50 volunteers.
- Provided assistance to more than 5,000 residents with accessing benefits through; case management, referral services and the use of public computers in the lobby, as well as WI-FI access.
- Saved residents \$600,000 on prescriptions through the county-supported discount drug card program.



Community SERVICES

HOUSING DIVISION

The Housing Division consists of four full-time employees. Day to day duties include the administration and oversight of multiple federal and state funding sources. Staff performs the intake, review and eligibility determination of applicants for the county's purchase assistance and housing rehabilitation programs funded by these sources. The Housing Division also oversees the rehabilitation and construction of the homes being assisted by the rehabilitation program.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Awarded a total of \$944,000 in grant funding from the Florida Division of Emergency Management and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) to provide assistance to residents with repairs and mitigating their homes against future storm damage.
- Provided housing rehabilitation assistance to 28 residents, determined eligibility for 18 Florida Hardest Hit Fund applicants, and assisted 8 households with becoming first time homebuyers.
- Successfully closed out a \$3,143,747 grant for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The county ultimately purchased and rehabilitated 13 foreclosed properties and assisted 13 households with purchasing a home.





TRANSIT DIVISION

The Transit Division consists of four full-time employees. Regular daily responsibilities include administration and management of local, state and federal grants, including tabulating performance measures; accounts management, program administration, preparing and submitting quarterly compliance reports; capital and operating vendor oversight; and extensive, regular community outreach and travel education services. In addition, the division conducts its own grant submittals, and, plans and develops new program initiatives.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ◇ Administered a grant funded budget totaling \$10 million realizing more than \$7 million in transit expenditures in 2017.
- ◇ Transit Staff conducted 70 out-of-office public outreach presentations over the past year including Secret Santa, speaking engagements and manning Transit tables at local venues.
- ◇ In addition to formula grant funds, the Transit Division secured discretionary grants from various sources including FTA 5310, CTD Mobility Enhancement Grant, and the FDOT Intermodal Development and Service Development Programs. More than \$4 million in additional discretionary grant applications are pending before the FTA and National Academies of Science and Technology Transportation Research Board.
- ◇ The Transit Professional staff is committed to advance professional standing and attainment. The Transit Manager was appointed to the Florida Public Transit Association Executive Committee and the Transit Systems Coordinator qualified and is now a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners. Staff has prepared and submitted journal and trade magazine articles to the American Planning Association and Florida Public Transportation Association.
- ◇ Two important new transportation initiative deliverables has taken place this year. The Direct Connect Off-Hours Program for the Transportation Disadvantaged began operating and received grant funding this summer, and now has approximately 140 qualified resident clients which will generate roughly 13,000 trips in the coming year.
- ◇ In September, the St. Lucie County Transit System began a new fare free program eliminating the fare box for all fixed route and paratransit services funded through a Transit Division Grant initiative. Already, system wide ridership is up 60 percent.
- ◇ The Transit Division's professional staff began preparation of new 10-year Transit Development Program and is finalizing a new countywide Sidewalk Capital Improvement Plan.

VETERAN SERVICES DIVISION

The Veteran Services Division operates two full-time offices; one in Port St. Lucie and one in Fort Pierce, with an office staff of eight full-time positions, one full-time grant funded position and eight part-time medical transportation driver positions. Treasure Coast Veterans and their families are served with dignity and compassion and the Veteran Services Division serves as their advocate to ensure they receive the care, support and recognition earned in service to our Nation. Claims are processed on Veterans behalf for compensation, pension, health care, education, burial, home loans, lost records, property tax exemptions and survivor benefits.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ◇ Secured 120 bed State Veterans' Nursing Home for St. Lucie County creating 190 new jobs (when completed) (groundbreaking scheduled for March 20, 2018)
- ◇ Obtained \$106,305,000 in compensation and pension (only) benefits for Treasure Coast Veterans.
- ◇ Hosted more than 6,000 Veteran appointments resulting in 37,180 Veteran services provided.
- ◇ Initiated Operation VetAssist, a handicapped Veteran transportation pickup and delivery service from their homes to our county hospital van pickup locations.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ♦ Master Gardener volunteer service hours in St. Lucie County totaled 15,087 and educated 33,187 people on the principles of Florida Friendly Horticulture practices. The total value of donated volunteer hours = \$342,270.60.*
- ♦ Master Naturalist volunteer service hours in St. Lucie County totaled 1,213 and educated 4,098 people on how to preserve the natural beauty of St. Lucie County. The total value of donated volunteer time = \$27,535.10.*
- ♦ 4H volunteer service hours in St. Lucie County totaled 14,500. The total value of donated volunteer hours = \$329,150.*
- ♦ More than 6,000 youth participated in 4H School Enrichment programs and were educated on the impacts of storm water pollution on the Indian River Lagoon. School Enrichment youth also toured the 4H farm and experienced first-hand the importance of agriculture in St. Lucie County.
- ♦ The St. Lucie County Fruit Crop Extension Educator trained and certified 400 citrus production workers and managers in GAPS (Good Agricultural Practices) and GMP (Good Manufacturing

Practices). By providing this training, citrus farmers have reduced the risk of foodborne illness on their farms or in their packinghouses, reducing the economic risks associated with an outbreak.

- ♦ More than 50 horticultural professionals received a Best Management Practices (BMP) certification. By earning this certification recipients can witness an increase in their wages of up to \$7,500 a year. Along with the economic benefit there is an environmental one as well as students are instructed on landscape practices that can prevent polluted stormwater runoff from entering the Indian River Lagoon.
- ♦ After participating in a 15-minute quick tip segment, local employees can now demonstrate an ability to provide improved customer service using positive words and phrases.

AWARDS

- ♦ Florida Entomological Society Achievement Award for Extension Ken Gioeli, and Dr. Kerry Minter.
- ♦ National Association of Counties Achievement Award for Everglades Invasive Reptile and Amphibian Monitoring Program.
- ♦ Treasure Coast Chapter of the Florida Association of Environmental Professionals (TCC-FAEP) Outreach and Education Award for St. Lucie County Sea Turtle Working Group's Sea Turtle Lighting and Nest Protection Initiative on the team of Ken Gioeli, Monica Graziani.

** Calculation of economic value of trained volunteers' contribution to extension programs: According to 2016, Florida data from the Independent Sector*

ST. LUCIE COUNTY UF/IFAS Extension

St. Lucie County UF/IFAS Extension's mission is to foster partnerships that provide research-based solutions to businesses, families and community members.

Outreach education and training is provided through 4H, Natural and Environmental Resources, Commercial Fruit and Vegetable Production, Urban and Commercial Horticulture and Community Resource Development. The Extension team consists of six Extension Agents one Master Gardener Outreach Education Coordinator, two 4H Program Specialists, three Food and Nutrition Program Assistants, a Senior Office Operations Specialist and a Maintenance Technician.





Environmental

RESOURCES

The Environmental Resources Department is comprised of three divisions: Natural Resources & Land Management, Environmental Regulations, and Education and Community Outreach. The Department’s mission is to preserve, protect, and enhance SLC’s environmental resources through sustainable land management practices, regulations, public education and outreach.

The Natural Resources & Land Management Division oversees the County’s 10,000-acre preserve system.

Responsibilities include: land management, acquisition, stewardship, planning & habitat restoration, resource protection, nature programming, and maintenance of the County’s passive recreation opportunities found within in the preserves. The division also facilitates many regional conservation/passive public access programs including the Environmentally Significant Land (ESL) Acquisition Bond program and the County’s Greenways and Trails Program.

Services include: invasive species management, prescribed fire, wildlife management, trail and property maintenance, amenity development and site improvements, as well as providing public safety and educational opportunities within the preserves. The division relies heavily on inter-agency partnerships, grant funding, sharing resources, and volunteer support to achieve the Department’s mission.

2017 NATURAL RESOURCES & LAND MANAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ◊ Received: \$1.6 million in competitive funding assistance and grants-related projects
- ◊ Restored: 3,000 acres of the preserves with land management services
- ◊ Managed: 2,000 acres of the preserves, the Treasure Coast International Airport, and the Port of Fort Pierce for invasive/exotic Species
- ◊ Enhanced: 400 acres of preserves with prescribed fire
- ◊ Saved: \$24,000 with citizen engagement projects (1,000 volunteer hours)
- ◊ Provided: 102 Guided Nature Programs free to the public
- ◊ Engaged: 1,000+ individuals through outreach and nature programs on county preserves
- ◊ Maintained: 10,000 acres and more than 42 miles of trail(s)

HABITAT RESTORATION

The division had yet another record year in project advancement, grant funding, and land management. Since 2015, the County has received more than \$1.7 million in funding assistance from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Uplands Invasive Plant Management Section (FWC IPMS). This funding has resulted in treating more than 9,000 acres of the county’s preserve system for invasive exotic species. This funding has also allowed the division to extend resources to the Treasure Coast International Airport and saves the county several \$100,000 annually by treating invasive exotic plants within the established conservation easements. Reducing and removing invasive speices not only benefits our natural resources and systems, but also offers return on investment that pays dividends in ecotourism by providing an authentic Florida experience for our visitors and citizens.

WATERSHED RESTORATION

The division worked to secure \$100,000 from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Subsection (FWC AHRES), to be used towards the design of a large-scale wetland restoration project at Teague Hammock Preserve in western St. Lucie County near C-23/C-24. The project will restore hydrology to the ecosystem, while benefiting the Indian River Lagoon and St. Lucie River Estuaries by holding 300-acres of surface water onsite instead of contributing to large freshwater inputs to the estuaries during rainy season. The division has worked with Legislative Affairs to secure an additional \$400,000 from the Florida Legislature to complete the construction of the project in future years. Some initial work has been completed ahead of this project including several invasive species treatments and a 300-acre prescribed fire. With the historical rainfall this year and initial work completed we have seen an abundance of birdlife return to the site including several large groups of roseate spoonbills and other wading species.

GREENWAYS & TRAILS

The division received accolades from the East Coast Greenway Alliance in 2017 for progress made in the County’s Greenways & Trails Program. In 2017, the division partnered with the Florida Department of Transportation’s (FDOT) SUN Trail program to initiate \$833,716 in project development and design projects to complete the East Coast Greenway (ECG) in St. Lucie County. Over the next five years, these efforts expect to yield upwards of an additional \$6 million to \$12 million in FDOT funding to construct the 12 foot-wide ECG trail from Walton Road to North Hutchinson Island. In total the ECG is a 3,000-mile multiuse trail that connects people to place from Maine to Key West.

INDIAN RIVER LAGOON

The division continues to work with the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program (IRLNEP) to restore habitat on Wesley’s Island in the Port of Fort Pierce. This past year the county received \$15,000 in reimbursement for several completed phases which focused on removing invasive species from the island and replanting the area with native plants. On Wesley’s Island alone, the county received assistance from 49 volunteers who donated 294 hours towards planting, site clean-up, and watering new plant introductions. This provided the county with a cost-savings of \$7,097.

PUBLIC ACCESS & ACQUISITION

The division worked to open the eastern portion of Citrus Hammock Preserve to the public in 2017. Newly installed amenities include an entrance sign, a ½ mile nature trail, a kiosk, and a small pervious parking area. Efforts are also underway to upgrade access amenities at St. Lucie Village Heritage Preserve. Improvements include upgraded signage, an improved discgolf course layout, and an improved pervious parking layout. The division worked with Property Acquisitions to purchase/close on the Zorc Property (adjacent to Captain Hammonds Hammock Preserve) and took two Florida Communities Trust (FCT) grant award agreements to the Board for execution, reimbursing the county 50 percent of the purchase price of both Cypress Creek and Myers-Stickel Preserves. Once finalized the reimbursements to the county for both projects will reach \$1.9 million.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS DIVISION

The Environmental Regulations Division is responsible for reviewing all proposed development to ensure compliance with the county's Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code, as well as, compatible with the county's long-term vision. Regulations staff is responsible at a local level for identifying the habitats of critical importance, working with land owners and developers to ensure avoidance and minimization of impacts to these important areas and encourage preservation and appropriate mitigation to compensate for any unavoidable impacts. Regulations staff also provides support for multi-departmental and multi-agency initiatives with staff expertise in wetland delineation, gopher tortoise monitoring and management, and habitat conservation planning for threatened or endangered species.

2017 ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ♦ Reviewed and Processed: 923 vegetation/dune trimming/dock and seawall permits, compared to 733 in 2016. This is a 26 percent increase in permit activity, which increased our permit revenue by 18 percent.
- ♦ Reduced: environmental permit review timeframes from an average of 10 business days down to 2 business days.
- ♦ Reviewed: 75 site plan/land use/zoning applications, which is a 12 percent increase from 2016.
- ♦ Provided: environmental consulting services to the Airport, Engineering, and Administration saving the county an estimated \$100,000 in outside consulting fees. Projects include the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Environmental Assessment for the MRO Hangar Grant No. 04-01-07168, environmental planning and permitting for the future MRO hanger airport expansion, environmental mitigation planning for the future port expansion and the permitting of the Indrio Savannahs Preserve Gopher Tortoise Recipient Site with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH DIVISION (EECO)

The Environmental Education & Community Outreach Division (EECO) works to educate, engage, and bring the community together in celebration of the county's wealth of natural resources. Operated out of the Oxbow Eco-Center, the mission of the EECO is to cultivate knowledge, nurture a sense of wonder, and inspire stewardship for the natural world. This is accomplished through collaboration and partnerships to provide engaging educational programs for youth and adults, professional and in-depth trainings and certifications, volunteer and citizen-science opportunities, and large and small community events.

2017 ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION & OUTREACH HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ♦ Engaged: approximately 28,700 people who visited the Oxbow Eco-Center.
- ♦ Provided: more than 400 educational programs reaching 12,500 adults and youth.
- ♦ Participated: in 18 community events and programs, reaching 24,000 people.
- ♦ Received: more than 7,000 hours of service to EECO and Natural Resources Division from 326 volunteers, equating to a market value of \$169,124.
- ♦ Collaborated: with more than three dozen community partners, including businesses, colleges and public schools, non-profit organizations and intergovernmental agencies.
- ♦ Hosted: annual Earth Day Festival with more than 80 exhibitors and 4,000 participants, and a Solar Eclipse Watch Party and programs reaching 1,150 residents.
- ♦ Launched: new Procession of the Species event in coordination with the Tourism Development Council, engaging numerous community partners and hundreds of volunteers.



VOLUNTEERS & GIVING BACK

- ♦ More than 200 volunteers provided 6,362 hours of service to the Oxbow Eco-Center, representing a market value of approximately \$153,579.
- ♦ Natural Resources volunteers assisted in the Guided Nature Hike & Paddle Program on county preserves, providing 410 hours of service, at a market value of \$9,897.
- ♦ Volunteers provided 234 hours of service to assist the Natural Resources Division in restoring habitat for the rare and endemic Lakela's Mint (*Dicerandra immaculate*) species, with a market value of \$5,661 of in-kind services.
- ♦ Partnered with the Indian River Lagoon Aquatics Preserve (IRLAP) program to develop and implement a citizen science program in micro-plastics, engaging citizens in water quality sampling to determine the level of residual plastics in area water bodies.
- ♦ Young people gained skills and experience through Youth Leadership training and put those skills to the test as summer camp counselors and throughout the year.
- ♦ Volunteers developed and hosted archery classes at the Oxbow Eco-Center, reaching 105 people including adults, youth and families.
- ♦ Volunteers developed a new Florida Heritage Trail at the Oxbow Eco-Center.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING & COLLABORATION

- ♦ Hosted a regional workshop for the Association of Nature Center Administrators, providing workshops to Southeast Florida Nature Centers.
- ♦ Partnered with the National Association for Interpretation (NAI) to offer specialized training for Certified Interpretive Hosts and Trainers.
- ♦ Partnered with Ocean Research & Conservation Association to bring in-depth watershed training to 29 teachers.
- ♦ ERD and Indian River Lagoon Aquatic Preserves worked together on 'Leave No Trace' training for eco-tourism professionals, naturalists, and volunteers to integrate this stewardship ethic into their programs.
- ♦ Provided two in-depth Florida Master Naturalist Programs, graduating 35 residents and professionals along the Treasure Coast with University of Florida certifications. ERD also assisted with FMNP programs provided by others.
- ♦ Partnered with the Archery Trade Association and Florida Archery Foundation to bring the Archery Academy to St. Lucie County. This week-long Academy provided high quality training in coaching techniques and youth education, and Level I and II Archery Instructor certifications.
- ♦ Provided interpretive, customer service, and event training to Mosquito Control District staff, aiding in the potential education of residents to better understand mosquito control efforts and how citizens can assist in keeping themselves and the community safe from mosquito borne diseases.



Facilities

DEPARTMENT

Facilities is an internal service organization committed to providing professional and quality construction, maintenance and operational services to meet the needs of all County owned or supported facilities, in an effort to pro-actively plan for a safe, efficient, and economical environment for all citizens, employees and visitors.

The department staffs 75 full and part-time employees who continuously provide superior customer service to sustain a safe and healthy environment, by keeping St. Lucie County's 164 buildings clean, in good repair, and structurally sound.

The Facilities Capital Projects Division, Building Maintenance Division, Custodial Services Division, Construction & Renovation Division, HVAC Division, and Jail Maintenance Division provides support to over 650 Board of County Commissioner employees, 5 Constitutional offices, and multiple agencies in support of the 19th Judicial Circuit Court and their estimated 120 employees. In addition, the Light Fleet Division provides county-wide support for replacement fleet, fuel, and maintenance of more than 300 vehicles operated by county staff and other associated agencies.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

- ♦ Completed renovation of the Custom's Facility at the Treasure Coast International Airport & Business Park
- ♦ Completed design and construction of Ilous Ellis Park Drainage Improvements.
- ♦ Completed the security control systems upgrades at Rock Road Jail.
- ♦ Commence design and permitting of new Waveland Beach restrooms landward of the CCCL (Coastal Construction Control Line) along South A1A on Hutchinson Island.
- ♦ Commence construction on new Tax Collector Building in Tradition using the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) partnership with the selected firm.
- ♦ Completed renovation of the old Port St. Lucie Police Station to the new Paula Lewis Library at Rosser Boulevard.

EFFICIENCY & SUSTAINABILITY UPGRADES FOR OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE

- ♦ Replaced 34 inefficient light fleet vehicles with more energy efficient vehicles for county operations.
- ♦ Completed sustainable energy and water saving improvements in facilities through Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) approved performance contract upgrades partnering with Florida Power and Light (FPL).
- ♦ HVAC Upgrades at the Logistics center, Rock Road Jail, Walton Road Annex, Fort Pierce Library, Sheriffs Admin Complex,
- ♦ Lighting Upgrades to LED light systems across 15 county-owned facilities
- ♦ Water saving upgrades to our high use facilities including the Rock Road Jail and First Data Field.
- ♦ Initiated design to replace air handler number two and four at the St. Lucie County Administration Building 2.
- ♦ Initiated design and construction of the St. Lucie County Administration Building parking lot drainage improvements.
- ♦ Replaced all site lighting at the St. Lucie Sheriff's Administrative complex to energy efficient fixtures.
- ♦ Initiated copper piping replacement including plumbing fixture replacement at Rock Road Jail.
- ♦ Completed replacement of failing electric water heaters to natural gas on-demand water heaters in Rock Road Jail.
- ♦ Completed the replacement of the fire alarm system at Rock Road Jail.
- ♦ Replaced Variable Air Volume (VAV) controls at Morningside Library.
- ♦ HVAC replacement & energy efficiency upgrade at Elks Park Concession building
- ♦ Chiller replacement and controls upgrade at the Agriculture Center with more efficient process control.
- ♦ Full replacement of the pod B4 air handlers at the Rock Road Jail.
- ♦ HVAC replacement & energy efficiency upgrade at Lincoln Park Community Center
- ♦ HVAC replacement & energy efficiency upgrade at the State Attorney's building.
- ♦ Completed the replacement of the Road & Bridge back-up generator, to a new natural gas powered generator with full connection to Fort Pierce Utilities Authority (FPUA) services.





SPECIAL PROJECTS

- ◇ Implemented Facility Dude, a work order system for Facilities to monitor, control and track performance measures along with forecasting capital infrastructure improvements.
- ◇ Implemented and maintained the county-wide generator backup power plan for critical locations during declared disasters.
- ◇ Continue division succession planning to include mentoring, training and recruitment at all levels with programs such as LEAP.
- ◇ Replaced failing chairs in courtrooms at the St. Lucie County Courthouse with pew style seating.
- ◇ Complete ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) upgrades at various county facilities.
- ◇ Replaced flooring at the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Administrative complex.
- ◇ Replaced the roof at the St. Lucie West Annex.

PARTNERSHIPS

- ◇ Partnered with FPL to complete sustainable energy and water saving improvements, including annual energy reviews throughout the County.
- ◇ Continued partnership with the City of Fort Pierce to perform parking lot improvements at Melody Lane.
- ◇ Entered into partnership with Treasure Coast Research & Education Development Authority for the Sunshine Kitchen Project.
- ◇ Partnered with Fort Pierce Utilities Authority (FPUA) on natural gas product upgrades and wastewater pre-treatment program requirements.



Human Resources

With a staff of 12 employees, St. Lucie County's Human Resources Department is a trusted foundation which provides ethical, strategic, and highly skilled services customized to each phase of every employee's journey. We attract, develop and retain a high-performing and diverse workforce; promoting a healthy, productive and fulfilling work culture.

- ◇ For the second year in a row, St. Lucie County BOCC has been recognized as a "Best Places to Work" recipient by Personnel Dynamics Consulting and the St. Lucie County Human Resource Association.
- ◇ Continued the County's professional development program: LEAP- Leadership Excellence through Action and Practice; offering a variety of training topics totaling more than 170 classes in partnership with Indian River State College.
- ◇ The 2017 Health & Wellness fair hosted 90 vendors and over 600 participants from St. Lucie Board of County Commissioners, Property Appraisers, Tax Collectors, Clerk of Courts and the City of Fort Pierce.
- ◇ Human Resources participated in multiple career fairs in St. Lucie and Indian River Counties recruiting qualified candidates while continuing to build partnerships and promote St. Lucie County. Staff processed more than 4,200 applications in 2017, of which 140 were newly hired for various jobs and 66 employees were promoted.
- ◇ Continued the SPARK Mentoring Program graduating the first class. SPARK Mentoring is a 10-month mentoring program designed for emerging employees providing a collaborative developmental opportunity through mentorship.
- ◇ Sponsored several on-site wellness challenges to promote increased exercise and weight loss amongst employees. More than 115 employees participated in the

weight loss challenge and programs, losing more than 1,268 lbs.

- ◇ St. Lucie County Human Resources partnered with St. Lucie Public Schools in hosting a Student Coffee Cart Program. This program allows exceptional students from two local high schools to participate in real life work-skills development.
- ◇ Graduated 13 leaders from our leadership development program, IGNITE Leadership. IGNITE is also a winner of multiple 2018 HR.com Leadership Excellence awards. The class of 2018 includes participants from local government municipalities.
- ◇ Implemented a second health plan option, resulting in significant savings.
- ◇ In 2017, St. Lucie County Human Resources Department staff made presentations at two National Conferences educating HR professionals on our "Hiring Manager Toolkit", IGNITE Leadership, and SPARK Mentoring programs.
- ◇ Expanded employee Health & Wellness Center hours, now open 7 days a week, helping to reduce health care costs and expenditures. Over 600 Employee Health Risk Assessments were completed and 1,000 more appointment slots were added at the center.
- ◇ During 2017, St. Lucie County successfully processed 147 volunteer applications producing volunteers that contribute to and enhance our community. Our volunteers help make St. Lucie County a great place to live and work!
- ◇ Increased safety training classes County-wide, resulting in a 20% reduction in work related accidents.
- ◇ Hosted the Live2Lead development seminar in collaboration with John Maxwell Leadership.
- ◇ Enhanced security measures at multiple County facilities to ensure safety of employees and citizens.
- ◇ In April 2017, St. Lucie County BOCC held an Annual Longevity Awards Ceremony celebrating 61 employees with 10 to 35 plus years of service.





Technology

The Information Technology Department provides technology to support the Board of County Commissioners' mission for community, citizens, and visitors.

With 34 full-time employees, the department supports more than 890 St. Lucie County users with an additional 505 users from outside agencies, in addition to countless internet customers. The department manages more than 90 applications, 200 servers, 845 workstations, 1,103 phones, 1,985 phone lines, 628 voice mail boxes, and 390 voice circuits across 72 locations. This year we also took over the administration of 265 county cell phones.

The Information Technology Department provides Help Desk support from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. The department also provides 24/7 by 365 days of technical support for the county's 911 Center and other critical needs. In addition, the Information Technology Department completed a total of 11,569 service requests.

HIGHLIGHTS

- ◊ Expansion of the county wireless network. Established wireless network for the Fairgrounds to accommodate graduation ceremonies for the School Board. Established wireless access for the transit system at the Intermodal building. Built new backup server for the EOC. Wired a backup server room for the Public Defender in Fort Pierce.
- ✂ Installed security cameras at Virginia Avenue, Becker House and Solid Waste. Two cameras were relocated to the children's' play area and a video monitor was added to main circulation desk to improve safety at the Hurston Library. Added badge access control to the Utilities department main doors.
- ✂ Prepared and installed computers for new Lewis Library. Security implementation in the areas of security cameras and access and data control. Configured and installed new phone system.
- ◊ Creation of redundancy network paths for the Motorola 800 Megahertz system and the AT&T Viper system at the Emergency Operations Center.
- ◊ Completion of New County Phone System.
- ◊ Deployed 650 PC's for the BOCC. Acquired Hard Drive Shredder and Crusher for data destruction compliance. Received 50 donated PCs from the Property Appraiser which we were able to purchase additional memory. Computers can be redeployed for any emergency needs. Assisted with deployment of the Facilities Dude Applications by purchasing five tablets for use in the field.
- ◊ Acquired additional switches for back up network switch replacement.
- ◊ Reconfigured the Datacenter at Virginia Avenue to better support customers by moving customer service and field services staff. Training of a staff member as a Security Administrator. Executed Disaster Recovery plan for Hurricane IRMA. Purchased a Mic Array for regional IT meetings, which allows a large group to participate in conference calls.
- ◊ Updated the IT homepage on the county site and created a software catalog. Implemented a liaison program. Research and planning for storage solutions and the 2016 Exchange upgrade.
- ◊ Renegotiated contracts for the Emergency Operations Center and the IT Bunker at Rock Road to increase bandwidth speed to 300MB for the cost of 100MB. Implemented a wireless bridge connection at the Lincoln Park Pool resulting in a savings of \$4,500 per year.
- ◊ Purchased new Exagrid to accommodate the needed data storage for the county.
- ◊ Purchased upgrade for Banner systems with HR Self Service, Finance Self Service, and Approval Que Modules. Upgraded Document Imaging System to allow for automation of manual processes for Finance, Human Resources and Office of Management and Budget. New Code Enforcement Case Management System.
- ◊ Installed NEC phone system to the newly renovated Customs and Border Protection building at the Treasure Coast International Airport. Redeployed an existing phone system which saved the county approximately \$40,000.





Library SERVICES

On Saturday, May 1, 1954, a newly constructed building was opened in downtown Fort Pierce and dedicated as the St. Lucie County Public Library. Over the years, the library system expanded; the Port St. Lucie Branch (1971), the Lakewood Park Branch (1989), the Zora Neale Hurston Branch (1991), the Morningside Branch (1993), a new downtown Library (1999) and since 1995, a Joint Use Library with IRSC at SLW. Throughout the years, the Library's mission has been to inspire lifelong learning, advance knowledge, and strengthen our community. We are the place to imagine, create, learn, enjoy and engage with community. At the close of 2017, the Library Division had 63 staff positions. The six county branches and the joint-use Pruitt Campus Library at Indian River State College were open to the public a total of 13,882 hours.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ◇ The Fort Pierce Library was renamed, the Susan Broom Kilmer Branch, honoring former Library Director and her 22 years of service to residents.
- ◇ Opened the new Paula A. Lewis Branch Library. This 21,000-square-foot branch brought much needed library services to the southwest quadrant of the county, where there are more than 100,000 people in a five-mile radius.
- ◇ Accepted a \$300,000 donation from the Friends of the Library to fund the core print collection at the new Lewis Branch.
- ◇ More than 178,995 residents have a library card.
- ◇ Opened the Library's first Creation Station Studio at Morningside, followed by a second one at the Lewis Library. These makerspaces provide myriad digital tools allowing patrons to record music, edit short films and do animation.
- ◇ Partnered with the St. Lucie Mets, the Friends of the Library and the Children's Services Council to offer Youth Summer Reading Challenge. Nearly 3,000 county youth participated in the challenge.
- ◇ Expanded the library's digital instructional capacity and provided almost 26,926 digital and technology learning opportunities. Patrons received this instruction in a group setting and in our extremely popular one-on-one instructional initiative called Book-a-Tech.
- ◇ A total of 749,037 items circulated including 84,822 e-book and e-audios. In addition patrons digitally downloaded library materials 217,185 times.
- ◇ 48,780 residents used the Library's Wi-Fi connection and 87,637 information seekers used one of the Library's 123 public internet computer stations.
- ◇ 30,259 residents of all ages attended a library program.
- ◇ 70 volunteers enhanced the library services by contributing 5,319 hours of work.



Mosquito CONTROL COASTAL Management



Also during the year, the Erosion District:

- ◇ Received approximately \$2 million in state beach and inlet management funding
- ◇ Took significant steps toward completing a new 50-year plan for federal participation in concert with the Ft. Pierce Shore Protection Project
- ◇ Achieved approval of the Chief of Engineers Report by the Secretary of the Army for the St. Lucie County Feasibility Study; next step for federalization is Congressional authorization
- ◇ Coordinated with Florida Inland Navigation District for the placement of 74,326 cubic yards of maintenance dredged sand onto Fort Pierce Beach at no cost to the County/
- ◇ Completed annual physical and biological monitoring of both the South County Beach and Dune Restoration and Ft. Pierce Shore Protection projects for 2017.

Besides its work with Zika prevention efforts and hurricane repairs, the Mosquito Control District devoted a great deal of effort in 2017 on research to improve its practices and procedures. This included the addition of new equipment, including a high-pressure spray turbine that was modified to better serve the District's needs. This work was presented at the Florida Mosquito Control Association's annual conference, part of the District's expanding effort to enhance our statewide and national standing. The research projects were led by a Senior Entomologist, a new position added by the District to initiate improvements in equipment, procedures and mosquito control products.

The District also increased its public outreach and education efforts, reaching into local schools to educate children about mosquito biology, and participating in public festivals such as Earth Day, the Indian River Lagoon Science Festival and the St. Lucie County Safety Festival. District staff attended 28 public outreach events and activities with more than 3,000 participants receiving active education, and a total of 30,000 people reached through active and passive education.

No news was good news for the Mosquito Control & Coastal Management Services Department (MC&CMS) during 2017, at least in terms of cases involving the Zika public health nemesis. Despite the continued presence of the mosquito-borne disease in several Florida regions and other parts of the nation, no travel-related or locally-transmitted cases of the disease were reported in St. Lucie County.

The Mosquito Control District, part of MC&CMS, responded aggressively to reports of suspected disease cases or hot spots with an intense focus on preventative efforts and public education to help avert local transmission. This was part of our continuing mission to protect the public health, curtail nuisance mosquitoes, and improve the quality of life in our community.

For the most part, 2017 was a mild year for mosquito breeding in the District, which covers roughly the eastern half of St. Lucie County. This changed quickly in September, when Hurricane Irma struck with a vengeance, leaving behind a temporary spike in the mosquito population and

extensive damage to 21 of the District's mosquito impoundments. These impoundments, stretching along the Indian River, are mangrove preserves with earthen perimeter dikes used for seasonal flooding of mosquito-breeding habitat, which dramatically reduces the potential salt-marsh-mosquito population. Those dikes suffered severe erosion, similar to the damage wreaked by Hurricane Matthew a year earlier. Repairs totaling an estimated \$4 million were begun in November, with completion expected by the end of February.

Irma also caused widespread erosion along 22 miles of St. Lucie County's shoreline. The Erosion District, which like the Mosquito Control District falls under MC&CMS, devotes its energies to the protection and management of the county's beaches, which are vital to tourism, property protection and enhancement of marine species. The District is working closely with the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) and other partners to rebuild those beaches that continue to face threats from storms and rising ocean waters.

Also during 2017, the Mosquito Control District

- ◇ Boosted staff training and education hours by 63 percent, adding Master Naturalist certification
- ◇ Responded to and resolved 647 service requests
- ◇ Conducted 1,101 ground fogging missions, treating 610,779 acres
- ◇ Improved mosquito impoundments by installing a new culvert, repairing crabbing docks, piers and pump stations and replacing signage.
- ◇ Added new equipment, including four inspection/fog trucks, backhoe and tractor/buzz blade to improve our efficiency in property maintenance.



Management & Budget

Total
County Budget

\$557,215,720

REVENUES Where the Money Comes From

Fund Balance: **\$237,307,773 (43%)**
Represents the excess of fund assets over liabilities from the previous year.

Ad Valorem: **\$167,604,462 (30%)**
Property taxes on real estate.

Charges for Services: **\$46,875,461 (8%)**
Funds generated from fees and/or services provided through the County.

Grants: **\$36,201,194 (6%)**
State and federal grant allocations.

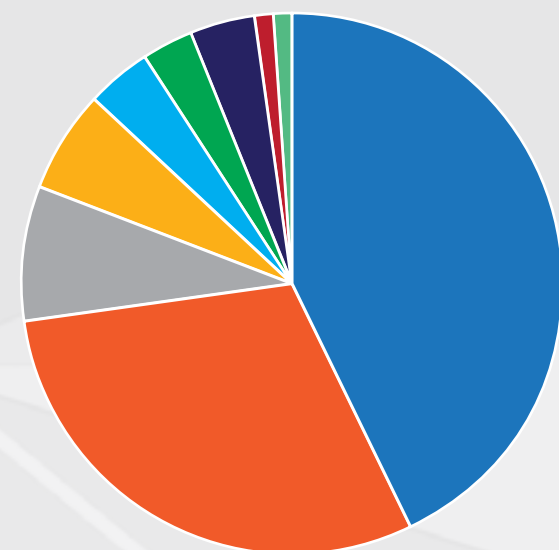
State Shared Revenues: **\$21,175,581 (4%)**
The County's share of State sales tax, gas taxes, and a variety of other state collections.

Permits, Fees, Special Assessments: **\$16,089,017 (3%)**
Funds generated from building permits, franchise fees, impact fees, solid waste assessments, and capital improvement assessments.

Internal Transfers: **\$19,531,911 (4%)**
Funds transferred from one County fund to another.

Local Option Taxes: **\$8,165,584 (1%)**
Funds generated through locally imposed taxes.

Miscellaneous: **\$4,264,737 (1%)**
Interest and reimbursements account for the majority of miscellaneous revenue. Also includes fines, forfeits, loans, internal service charges, and allowance for uncollectible amounts.



Fund Balance: ■
Ad Valorem: ■
Charges for Services: ■
Grants: ■
State Shared Revenues: ■
Permits, Fees, Special Assessments ■
Internal Transfers: ■
Local Option Taxes: ■
Miscellaneous: ■

EXPENDITURES Where the Money Goes

Operating Expenses: **\$99,704,924 (18%)**
Represents the cost of day-to-day operations such as general maintenance, equipment maintenance, repairs, fuel, utilities, liability insurance, contractual services, and information technology services.

Capital: **\$128,250,589 (23%)**
Includes the purchase of land, improvements to land, buildings, roads, bridges, fences, landscaping, storm drains, and capital reserves.

Transfers to Constitutional Officers: **\$96,126,380 (17%)**
Represents Funds transferred to St. Lucie County's Constitutional Officers (Supervisor of Elections, Clerk of Courts, Property Appraiser, Tax Collector, and Sheriff). These transfers fund personnel and operating expenses of the Constitutional Officers who provide services to the public.

Reserves: **\$78,212,431 (14%)**
Funds earmarked for future use.

Personnel Services: **\$55,078,071 (10%)**
The salary and compensation paid to employees as well as the benefits provided to employees who work directly for the Board of County Commissioners.

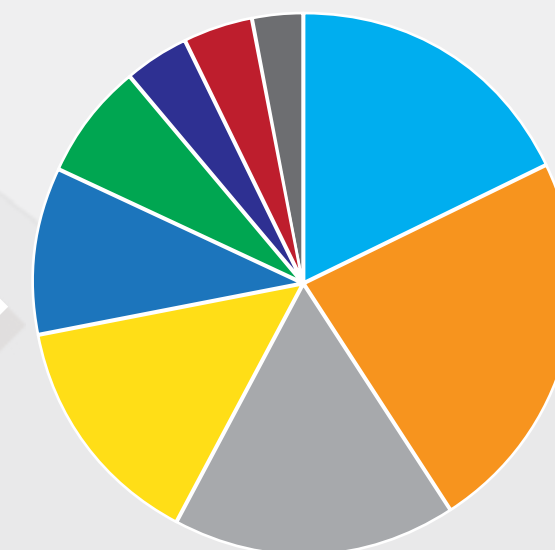
Emergency Reserves: **\$36,500,000 (7%)**
Funds earmarked for emergencies caused by natural or man-made disasters; one year of budget stabilization; and transportation infrastructure reserves.

Grants & Aids **\$23,158,855 (4%)**
Includes contributions to other government entities and non-profit organizations.

Debt: **\$20,652,559 (4%)**
Consists of the payments for debt service purposes.

Internal Transfers: **\$19,531,911 (3%)**
Funds transferred from one County fund to another.

Operating Expenses: ■
Capital: ■
Transfers to Constitutional Officers: ■
Reserves: ■
Personnel Services: ■
Emergency Reserves: ■
Grants & Aids ■
Debt: ■
Internal Transfers: ■





Parks & Recreation

PARKS & SPECIAL FACILITIES

FENN CENTER

The mission of the Havert L. Fenn Center, which was constructed in 2008 as a Special Needs Shelter, goes beyond that initial function. The facility serves the residents of St. Lucie County by supporting and hosting numerous events organized by various community, government, business and private entities. The versatility of the center is enhanced by the exceptional customer service and professional assistance provided by the facility to both residents and visitors alike.

Accomplishments

- ◆ Increased weekday rental revenue by 5 percent.
- ◆ Expanded online presence for sales opportunities.
- ◆ Maintained 100 percent staff participation in training classes and seminars.
- ◆ Increased number of rentals that attracted attendees from outside the Treasure Coast by 18 percent.
- ◆ Replaced main portable stage.
- ◆ Executed two separate successful activations as a Special Needs Shelter. This was the first time the facility had been activated as a shelter since it was built.



OVERVIEW

Parks & Recreation Department is comprised of roughly 138 employees in four divisions: Administration, Parks & Special Facilities, Regional Parks & Stadiums and Fairwinds Golf Course.

TRADES & GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

TRADES

Our mission is to serve the needs and safety of the residents, visitors and employees by maintaining and improving our Parks, Playgrounds, Beaches, Waterways and our Facilities in St. Lucie County. The Trades Crew carries out its mission by providing professional support in the areas of maintenance, construction, electrical, plumbing, and various other trade skills.

GROUNDS

Our mission is to enrich the lives of the residents of St. Lucie County by consistently providing exceptional grounds maintenance at all parks and facilities while providing outstanding customer service. Also, giving the community safe and enjoyable parks to bring family and friends from all over the world.

Accomplishments

- ◆ Replaced Lakewood Neighborhood Park Playground Structure.
- ◆ Replenished and replaced Engineered Wood Fiber at nine playgrounds.
- ◆ Replenished and repaired fitness trail at Lakewood Neighborhood Park.
- ◆ Replaced six grills at various parks.
- ◆ Replaced six picnic tables and benches at beach parks.
- ◆ Replenished sand in two volleyball courts.
- ◆ Provided and installed safety mats under all park swing sets.
- ◆ Replaced White City Restrooms.
- ◆ Completed Pepper Park Riverside/Wildcat Cove Pier Renovation Project with matching LWCF Grant.
- ◆ Renovated and replaced landscaping and irrigation system at State Attorney's Office Building.



FAIRGROUNDS

The mission of the St Lucie County Fairgrounds, Equestrian & Event Center is to serve the residents of St. Lucie County and surrounding counties by promoting and supporting the area's creative arts, industrial, agricultural, educational, and recreational opportunities, while providing quality entertainment for the residents of the Treasure Coast.

Accomplishments

- ◆ Increased camping revenues by 13 percent.
- ◆ Completed Phase I of Adams Arena P/A Sound System replacement.
- ◆ Increased Dog Agility Trial events by 66 percent.
- ◆ Increased retained events from 20 to 29.
- ◆ Completed replacement of Electrical Transfer Switches.
- ◆ Completed Adams Arena Electrical Improvements Project which increased the number of electrical outlets available for events.
- ◆ Implemented an Open Ride Pilot Program, where horse owners can come and ride in the Adams Arena the first and third Wednesdays of each month for \$10 per session.
- ◆ Completed animal wash stations and dry detention project
- ◆ Completed New LED Sign Project.



ST. LUCIE COUNTY AQUARIUM

The St. Lucie County Aquarium, featuring the Smithsonian Marine Ecosystems Exhibit, is managed through a partnership between the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners and the Smithsonian Marine Station in Fort Pierce. The Aquarium offers a variety of aquarium displays and a touch tank which accurately reflect the habitats typically found in the Indian River Lagoon and surrounding coastal waters. Individuals and groups of all ages are welcome, and educational programs are offered to school and camp groups.

Accomplishments

- ◇ Increased Revenue 7 percent over the previous year.
- ◇ Joint History ticket sales totaled \$8,946, with more than 4,400 visitors sent to the History Center.
- ◇ Continued to maintain the successful cooperative relationship with the Smithsonian Marine Program.
- ◇ Completed landscape rejuvenation project.
- ◇ Assisted with addition of a bike share station through Planning and Community Services project.
- ◇ Completed New LED Sign Project.

LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY CENTER

The Mission of Lincoln Park Community Center is to provide youth-oriented programming that promotes educational and social wellbeing, recreational activities, and community involvement. Lincoln Park Community Center strives to provide positive recreational opportunities for youth, families, and community members. The staff at Lincoln Park Community Center are Treasure Hunters, who are committed to search for all talents, skills, and intelligence that exist in all children. They believe that all children are capable of success: No Exceptions!

Accomplishments

- ◇ Obtained grant funding in the amount of \$39,200 for Summer Camp programming from the Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County.
- ◇ Revenues collected for Summer Programs surpassed the budgeted amount by 66 percent
- ◇ Total Summer Camp enrollment was 77 participants.
- ◇ Implemented a separate Summer Teen Camp with 30 participants.
- ◇ Installed additional security camera system.
- ◇ Renovated kitchen area.
- ◇ Implemented a "Happy" Halloween event with 150 attendees.
- ◇ Hosted a Turkey giveaway event which provided 300 turkeys to families in the Lincoln Park Community for Thanksgiving.
- ◇ Obtained an educational instructor for summer and after school club time programs to improve the academic skills of participants.
- ◇ Implemented specialists for club time programs (ex. Art, photography, etc.) to expand and enhance participant activities.
- ◇ Replaced Air Conditioning System



ST. LUCIE COUNTY REGIONAL HISTORY CENTER

The St. Lucie County Regional History Center offers a variety of exhibits, displays and artifacts which depict the rich history of St. Lucie County. Visitors of all ages are welcome to get a glimpse of the foundation of our community. Educational tours are provided for groups of all ages.

Accomplishments

- ◇ Completed storage room renovation to increase capacity of storage area.
- ◇ Completed 99 percent of the appraisal project – all artifacts, files, archives, and public art.



SAVANNAS RECREATIONAL AREA AND CAMPGROUND

The mission of the Savannas Recreational Area is to provide recreational opportunities such as camping, kayaking, and hiking trails for its guests, and to promote environmental education and passive recreation in a pleasant environment.

Accomplishments

- ◇ Collected \$280,459 in overall revenue, which is an increase of 20 percent over the previous year.
- ◇ Paved entrance road from Trading Post entrance to maintenance building.
- ◇ Improved Wi-Fi system for park guests.
- ◇ Completed improvements to Gator Island.
- ◇ Developed new campground brochure





AQUATICS

The mission of the Aquatics Program of St. Lucie County Parks & Recreation Department is to provide health, safety, education, and enjoyment through efficient, competent, and professional services and programming. The Aquatics Program, operating out of three locations, is proud to offer swimming lessons to all ages, aquatic training programs, and drowning prevention awareness to local students and the community.

Accomplishments

- ◊ Restructured and reorganized Aquatics Program as a whole to improve the programs structure and staff retention and streamlined the seasonal hiring process.
- ◊ Continued Water Safety presentations at local schools and added Port St. Lucie; taught 2,045 students to be safer in and around water.

- ◊ Obtained funding for water safety programming in the amount of \$13,855 from WPSL Children’s Services Council of St. Lucie County and Sunshine Laundry.
- ◊ Taught 1,126 swim lessons: 44.7 percent increase over last year.
- ◊ Continued the American Red Cross Centennial Program for swim lessons and Lifeguard sponsorships. This year we were able to provide swim lessons to 90 participants and provide sponsorships to five new water safety instructors.
- ◊ Revenue collected for program fees surpassed the budgeted projection by 8 percent.
- ◊ Offered Lifeguard and Water Safety Instructor training courses to the public and potential staff.

REGIONAL PARKS

REVENUE

St. Lucie County School Board	Total: \$148,587
Lawnwood Varsity and JV Football	14 games
South County Varsity and JV Football	19 games
South County Soccer	54 games
Track Meets	3 meets

User Fees	Total: \$220,862
(Vinnie Ball 1564 games and practices \$38,517)	

Yard Sales	(573 Booths \$8,595)
Concessions	\$14,561
Program Fees	\$7,410
User Fees	\$143,424
Skate Park	ID’s \$8,355

Hosted several youth baseball tournaments in coordination with Treasure Coast Sports Commission and NY Mets.	
Lawnwood Tennis courts repaired low area on court 4 and resurfaced 1 – 4	\$20,000
Ilous Ellis Parking Lot (Pool, Pop Warner and Dominos) resurfaced	\$18,000
Lawnwood Football Field renovated	\$75, 000
Ilous Ellis Football Field renovated	\$60, 000
Lawnwood Baseball irrigation and drainage	\$100,000
Lawnwood Baseball Field 1 renovations	\$50,000
Lawnwood Baseball Field 5 & 6 Batting Tunnel	\$40,000
New Shade roof over Mechanic Shop	
Lakewood Park Regional Parks County water utility hookup (design phase)	\$48,000
Renovation of Home, Visiting and Official’s Locker Rooms	
New Press Box Horatio Grisby	
2 New water coolers installed at field 2 Lawnwood Baseball	
New parking & blacktop resurface & split rail fence Division Office	
President’s Day baseball tournament	\$4,631.
Prospect Wire baseball tournaments	\$24,500
Adult Kickball Leagues Lawnwood and Lakewood Park	

SPECIAL EVENTS

- ◇ Martin Luther King Commemorative Festival
- ◇ American Heart Association Cancer Walk
- ◇ Cinco De Mayo
- ◇ Staff coordinated parades and decorated for County Commissioner’s participation in Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, St. Patrick’s Day, as well as Christmas celebrations in the Cities of Port St. Lucie and Ft. Pierce.

EQUIPMENT

2 Water Coolers on Lawnwood baseball field #2	\$3,217
Toro Spray Rig	\$51, 663
Spreader	\$3,950

SHERATON PLAZA BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT
\$300,000

- ◇ Resurfaced Basketball Court
- ◇ New black silk coated fence
- ◇ Split Rail Fence
- ◇ Restroom Stucco and Painted
- ◇ Irrigation and Landscaping
- ◇ New Playground

WALTON COMMUNITY CENTER
SPECIALIST GROUPS

- ◇ Treasure Coast Wood Carvers
- ◇ Treasure Coast Wood Turning Guild Inc.
- ◇ Lisa Grose - Line Dancing and Social
- ◇ Mike Doughty - Square Dancing
- ◇ Indian River Drive Freeholders (Homeowners Group)



Stadium inspections, repairs and improvements are done annually after each Spring Training season in preparation for the next. In April, immediately following Spring Training, the stadium will undergo a \$55 Million renovation & expansion.

STADIUM IMPROVEMENTS

- ◇ New landscaping, parking lot painting,
- ◇ Stadium seats inspected and repaired
- ◇ Repaired bubbled area in First Base Party Deck (Under Warranty)
- ◇ Pressure Wash Bullnose and
- ◇ Front Canopy of Stadium (\$4,200)

Major and Minor Repairs

Beautification of the front of stadium	\$5,850
Removed and replaced sod on the berm	\$7,832
Awnings pressure washed	\$1500
Minor league building, side walk all power washed	\$1,000
Front of Stadium brick power washed	\$1,250
Fan Shop Flooring cleaned and polished	\$195
Major League Clubhouse rubber flooring cleaned and waxed	\$2,500
Bull nose power washed	\$4,950
Sound room flooring replaced	\$1,125
Elevator floor replaced	\$500
Elevator tower cleaned/removal of all cob webs	\$1,850
Major elevator repairs completed	\$16,470
New A/C installed in the elevator machine room	\$1,500
Repair of aluminum on scoreboard top trim	\$2,000
C.A. Lindman- Expansion Joint Repairs	\$338,134

Hurricane Repairs

Mets Executive offices and Clubhouse drywall repairs (County Trades Crew) Install 5100 linear ft. of border to stop wash out of warning track material	\$33,100
Terrace open air under roof repaired	\$36,202
Fencing repaired throughout facility	\$7,880
Field #4& #7 fence replaced-4-pack fence replaced	\$2,438
Foul poles throughout baseball fields straighten and/or replaced	\$10,380

Equipment

Ice Machine replaced in Minor League Hydroworx room	\$5,425
New “Temperature Display” replaced on scoreboard	\$11,225
Toro Reel Master	\$31,380
Multi Pro Sprayer	\$33,213

Special Events

American Cancer Society Walk
Cirque Italia





FAIRWINDS GOLF COURSE

GOLF OPERATIONS

2017 was a strong year for Fairwinds Golf Course. Both revenue and rounds were up for the fiscal year. A combination of outstanding weather and improving course conditions resulted in a 7 percent increase in public play over last year. The club hosted 39,748 rounds of golf and generated \$1,480,017 which enabled the Golf Course Maintenance Team to maintain the course at a high level, provide expanded services, as well as make visible improvements. Fairwinds has been able to make these improvements by containing costs. The facility uses the services of more than 30 volunteers as cart attendants, rangers, starters and pro-shop help.

The volunteers on average work over 400 hours weekly in season and 250 during the summer. Some of Fairwinds significant accomplishments were:

- ◇ Hosted the St. Lucie County Amateur providing local golfers the opportunity to compete in a professionally run tournament.
- ◇ Partnered with the United Way for their annual fundraising golf tournament to support St. Lucie County activities. Event raised in excess of \$55,000.
- ◇ The Player Advantage Program continued strong participation. Just over 1,000 Player Advantage Cards were sold and/or renewed generating more than \$60,000. The program offers discounts on greens fees, golf shop merchandise purchases and the ability to make tee time reservations further in advance of the general public. New in 2017 was our PAC Rewards program where golfers earn free rounds as they spend.
- ◇ Continued the PGA of America's "Play it Forward Initiative" by improving our "Forward Tees." The popularity of the front set of tees resulted in the expansion of four sets of the tees and four more expansions are planned for the summer of 2018. These forward tees provide opportunities for beginners and super seniors to enjoy the game.
- ◇ Hosted several events in conjunction with the Indian River Golf Foundation providing an affordable golf experience for Treasure Coast youths.
- ◇ In 2017 the St. Lucie County Junior Tour returned. The Tour consists of six events at area clubs for local junior golfers. The Tour is run by Fairwinds staff of PGA Professionals. Expansion of the Tour in the summer of 2018 is planned.
- ◇ Hosted more than 60 special athletes in the Special Olympics Golf Games and held weekly clinics throughout the summer for the athletes. PGA Professionals Mark Cammarene and Michael Melton donated over 80 hours of instructional time in assisting with this program.
- ◇ Fairwinds supports St. Lucie County high school golf as the host facility of Lincoln Park Academy and Fort Pierce Westwood High School. Fairwinds also hosts the annual St. Lucie County High School Championship.
- ◇ Hosted weekly free instructional clinics for the Oslo Middle School golf team.
- ◇ Hosted both the Bi-County and Twin-County Ladies events which provides a competitive platform for St. Lucie County residents. The Fairwinds Women's Golf Association continues its growth and now has more than 70 members. This can be attributed to operational changes and professional assistance in managing their membership.
- ◇ Hosted the Florida Junior Tour (FJT) run by the Florida State Golf Association. 80 juniors from all over Florida competed at Fairwinds over a two-day period. The success of the event generated two FJT Events planned for 2018.



GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE

Fairwinds Golf Course is unique as it was constructed on the site of an old landfill. Due to residual effects, the maintenance department of Fairwinds Golf Course is faced with challenging turf conditions. Some of the significant course improvement projects of the past year include:

- ◊ Exotic plant removal. Staff worked vigorously to remove Brazilian Peppers throughout the interior of the golf course and aggressively trim them back around the perimeter of the property.
- ◊ Re-contoured four bunkers back to original design allowing for better turf growth around the edges of the bunkers. Will continue with this program until all 67 bunkers are restored.
- ◊ All tees and fairways were aggressively verticut this summer and greens were aerified three times to improve turf and prepare for the busy winter season.
- ◊ An aggressive weed control program was continued to reduce the amount of tropical signal grass present in the fairways with the goal of having the 40 acres of fairways clean by the end of 2018. The cost of the treatments are significant thus this process has been phased.
- ◊ 200 palm trees were trimmed to reduce debris removal in storms and provide a more visually appealing experience for the golfers.
- ◊ Mole cricket and fire ant treatment was expanded to half the course this summer



CAPITAL PROJECTS

Two significant capital improvement projects were completed and a third is nearing completion.

- ◊ Gazebo Enclosure: The 400-square-foot gazebo behind the clubhouse was screened and acrylic sliding windows installed making the space usable for outdoor dining and private events. New furniture was purchased and the floor finished with tile. The new “19th Hole” seats 40 guests and has become a great spot to relax after a round.
- ◊ Orange Tee Expansion: With the growing senior population and Fairwinds desire to attract new players to the game in 2017, a short set of tees were placed on the golf course. With the use of these tees increasing, it has become necessary to expand them to provide a better quality experience for the golfers playing the tees. The first phase of this project was completed this summer with continued expansion this year.
- ◊ Practice Area Expansion: The initial phase of this project included the construction of a 4,000-square-foot putting green and expansion of the chipping green at the East end of the driving range with the goal of creating a world class teaching facility. Venues to host seasonal golf schools are very limited on the Treasure Coast. Fairwinds will now be able to generate additional revenue from the use of the new practice amenities. Furthermore, it allows the public to have access to a quality practice experience not found at any public facility in the area. The final phase of the project will be completed in the summer of 2018.



Planning & Development SERVICES

OVERVIEW

Planning and Development Services provides professional guidance for development in unincorporated St. Lucie County. With a staff of 44 employees, the department provides building permit review to ensure compliance with the Florida Building Code, development review and public engagement for larger or more complex development processes, economic development concierge services for both small and large businesses, and code enforcement services to ensure our community continues to strive toward the county's adopted goals, standards and long-range vision to Build a Strong Community. In 2017, the department saw a continued increase in building permits. Economic development projects from our local employers and relocating companies that had been in development came to fruition. As a result, the department is making plans to handle increased development activity for the coming year.

BUILDING AND CODE REGULATIONS DIVISION

Building Permit and Revenue Data

Building activity in 2017 showed a substantial improvement, increasing 14 percent over 2016. Valuations are up 20 percent over 2016. Permitting activity continues its increasing pace since the low mark in 2010, with the growth rate continuing to increase year over year.

	2016	2017	% +/-
Total Permits	8431	9648	12.62%
Total Revenue (calendar yr.)	\$2,115,607	\$2,491,099	17.74%
491 Reserve	\$1,806,837	\$3,197,834	76.98%*
Valuations	\$136,696,935	\$164,411,879	20.2%

* The 491 Reserve Fund for 2016 totaled \$1,806,837. This figure, however, is based on a projection that is calculated at the beginning of the year. In fact, there was a net surplus of \$571,000 for the 491 Reserve that was not projected. In August 2017 the surplus funds were added to the reserve funds and the reserve increased to (minus any expenditures) \$2,377,837. The actual increase for 2017 over 2016 is 34.48%.

CUSTOMER SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS

Every year staff continues to work on efficiency and customer service improvements. The following is a summary of changes implemented in the Building Division to improve service in 2017.

Strategic Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">ClearPoint Balanced Scorecard software pilot implemented, benchmarkingPermitting performance metrics to County mission and Objectives.
Inspection Scheduling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Implemented AM/PM scheduling for inspections to improve customer service.Implemented one hour advance notice for inspector's arrival.
Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Inspectors received upgrade from flip phones to smart phones to provide more efficient communication with customers.
Targeted Industries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Flag 'target industry' businesses in Codeview to monitor permitting process for job creator permits to ensure expedited priority.
Customer service education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Introduced Helpful Hints on Inspections for Owner Builders.
Level of Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Voluntary overtime for plans examiners to work on Saturdays on a needed basis to maintain an acceptable level of service.Monitor performance measures on a quarterly basis to maintain the division's level of service.
Surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Inspectors give out customer service surveys for feedback at end of job.
Efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Eliminated certain clerical duties of Plans Examiners, such as loading fees, consolidating revised plans as well as stamping plans by having support staff assist in these functions.Eliminated mandatory sequencing of inspections for contractors. This optimizes customer flexibility and reduces review time by the plan's examiner.

PLANNING

St. Lucie County’s Business Navigator continued to work closely with the Economic Development Council, county staff and both cities to recruit growing and new businesses to St. Lucie County and its cities. Job creation continued in 2017, with 127 companies opening or expanding in St. Lucie County.

2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ◊ Fisherman’s Wharf Redevelopment Plan: Collaborated with the City of Fort Pierce to complete a redevelopment plan, funded by Florida Department Economic Opportunity and endorsed by both the Board of County Commissioners and the Fort Pierce City Commission
- ◊ Internships: Provided professional planning experience to two interns and a Capstone student.



CODE ENFORCEMENT

Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◊ Awarded Outreach and Education Award by the Treasure Coast Chapter of the Florida Association of Environmental Professionals for Sea Turtle Awareness Program and its outcomes.
Educational Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◊ Coordinated Sea Turtle Awareness program: 100 percent compliance was attained during the 2016 and 2017 Sea Turtle Nesting Season.◊ Implemented a “courtesy letter/door hanger” notice prior to issuing Notice of Violation. While it may increase time to abatement, it focuses efforts on education and engagement.◊ Created educational flyers on common code violations and outside support agencies for assistance for officers to use in the field as needed.◊ Mailed “Swale Maintenance” flyer to targeted neighborhoods to reduce localized flooding and increase compliance.
Innovations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◊ Launched successful Lien Amnesty program to close out old lien cases offering 10 percent payment on a lien closed out the lien on a property.
Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◊ Collaboration with Community Services to help residents in need whom have Code cases.
Customer Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◊ Ongoing in-house training for Code officers on how to deal with irate customers.◊ Revamp of Notice of Violations to make them more clear and engaging.◊ Instituted on-call weekend Code Enforcement duty due to citizen requests.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Recruitment and Expansion Successes

St. Lucie County’s Business Navigator continued to work closely with the Economic Development Council, county staff and both cities to recruit growing and new businesses to St. Lucie County and its cities. Job creation continued in 2017, with 127 companies opening or expanding in St. Lucie County.

2017 HIGHLIGHTS

- ◊ A-1 Roof Trusses completed a two-story office building valued at \$795,000. This expansion will include 30 new jobs.
- ◊ Islamorada Beer Company, following its 2016 opening, exceeded its growth expectations and has expanded its production.
- ◊ Maverick Boat Group received Major Site Plan approval for a four-phase manufacturing expansion in eight weeks, which, when Phase One is complete, will result in at least 120 new jobs and a new 106,000-square-foot manufacturing facility valued at \$6 million.
- ◊ Pursuit Boats completed a \$2,500,000 expansion of their existing facilities while creating 30 new jobs.
- ◊ Builders FirstSource chose St. Lucie County to expand, with a planned \$3,500,000 improvement to its facility and will create 40 new jobs.City Electric Supply chose St. Lucie County to expand, with a 400,000-square-foot manufacturing facility.
- ◊ The addition of Tattoo Yachts, a manufacturer of 22’ and 26’ trailable sailboats along with 58’ power catamarans in an existing property adjacent to Treasure Coast International Airport. The company will invest over \$1.5 million in purchase and renovations along with the creation of 49 new jobs.
- ◊ ABC Home Medical Supply, a national provider of specialty medical supplies consolidated and relocated their corporate headquarters from locations in California and Pennsylvania to their existing St. Lucie County facility while adding 31 new jobs.
- ◊ Pre-Cast Specialties, a designer and builder of pre-cast and pre-stressed concrete products is now completing their improvements to their 75-acre site where they will be creating 150 new jobs.
- ◊ City Electric Supply’s subsidiary TAMCO Group, a family-owned electrical wholesale business spanning 28 states is consolidating its manufacturing, distribution and administrative operations in a 400,000-square foot new facility. The company will be investing \$38 million in construction, machinery and equipment while adding 50 new jobs to their existing workforce.



The Department of Public Safety is a comprehensive provider of Public Safety services. It consists of predominately five divisions, 911 Public Safety Communications, Emergency Management, Animal Safety, Marine Safety / Ocean Rescue and Radiological Planning and Preparedness. Each of these divisions provides a vast array of public services for St. Lucie County and its residents. Their roles and responsibilities go far beyond just the title of the divisions, from public relations, public education to emergency response, planning, preparation and mitigation. We are there to answer the call and carry out the mission no matter how small or large. We are prepared.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER (EOC) PREPARATIONS *Technology and Equipment*

- ◇ 50 new laptops in workstations
- ◇ Six new 70" monitors
- ◇ Enhancement of SharePoint: A web-based software management system
- ◇ Enhancement of Incident Command System for a seamless EOC operation (NIMS)

PLAN DEVELOPMENT

- ◇ Development of Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan – Three Years
- ◇ Development of an EM Strategic Plan – Three years
- ◇ Strategic Workshop held in April 28, 2017
- ◇ Revision and update of the St. Lucie County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP), currently under review by the Florida Division of Emergency Management
- ◇ Development of a Recovery Plan which guides and directs all processes to follow in the aftermath of a disaster.

WHOLE COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION

Through series of scheduled meetings, EM staff worked with community partners in the development of preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation opportunities and goals that will benefit the whole community should a major disaster impact St. Lucie:

- ◇ Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Working Group
- ◇ Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Workshop for LMS group
- ◇ EM Team Meetings – these quarterly meetings informed all partners in EM on current issues impacting the field, training and exercise opportunities, and how to maintain readiness against all hazards.
- ◇ Special Needs Committee – the group meets monthly to maintain current the Special Needs registry, shelter functions and management
- ◇ Radiological Taskforce – the group meets quarterly to maintain readiness against a radiological disaster.
- ◇ SAFER St. Lucie – the group meets quarterly to maintain readiness against all hazards for all community-based organizations and volunteering services.
- ◇ Development of a Recovery Plan which guides and directs all processes to follow in the aftermath of a disaster.



TRAININGS AND EXERCISES

- ◇ Region 5 Weapons of Mass Destruction Full Scale Exercise
- ◇ Radiological Exercise
- ◇ Statewide Hurricane Exercise
- ◇ SharePoint Trainings
- ◇ Annual Emergency Debris Management TTX
- ◇ Incident Command System (ICS) trainings – G402 ICS for Executives and Senior Officials; G300 Intermediate ICS;
- ◇ Series of shelter operations trainings including the Special Needs shelter

PUBLIC OUTREACH

- ◇ Conducted Flood Safety Awareness Week (March 14-18), and Severe Weather Awareness Week (Jan. 23- 27).
- ◇ Conducted 26 disaster preparedness presentations to various community homeowner's associations, community groups and area non-profits in order to raise awareness of all community hazards and learn how to build a family disaster
- ◇ Supported 14 information fairs
- ◇ Became actively involved with the public through a variety of social media outlets. This medium enabled staff to educate the public in a variety of emergency management issues

112
EOC
OPERATIONS
ROOM

ACTIVATION OF THE EOC FOR HURRICANE IRMA (SEPT. 7-14):

Hurricane and storm surge warnings went into effect on Sept. 8, 2017 due to the following meteorological expectations from storm data impacting the county: storm surge up to three feet; heavy flooding due to peak rainfall amounts of 6 to 10 inches; and favorable conditions for tornadic activity. Hurricane Irma impacts within St. Lucie County post-landfall included the following:

- ◇ More than 115,000 properties without power
- ◇ Heavy flooding near the tributaries of the Five Mile and Ten Mile creeks that caused extensive damage to numerous residential, commercial and governmental properties
- ◇ Displacement of local populace (50+) that required short-term sheltering at the Percy Peek auditorium
- ◇ Flooding hazards along numerous roadways that required upstream staging
- ◇ Closure of the St. Lucie Public Schools due to heavy flooding at its administrative offices and other areas around some schools.
- ◇ Special Needs Shelter operations:
- ◇ Before Hurricane Irma was projected to make landfall our special needs database had 340 registrants. At the end Hurricane Irma's event we had 601 people registered in the database, gaining 261 new registrants
- ◇ Received approximately 1,643 call from planning and preparation



RADIOLOGICAL DIVISION

The Radiological Division is staffed with two people that manage and coordinate training, public relations and education of all training and exercise events and programs in the county. It also handles all special needs planning, preparation and registration of our special needs population. Provides a comprehensive review of all Assisted Living Facilities (ALF) and nursing home facilities.

- ◇ **Radiological Training:**
Trained approximately 1,230 first responders and emergency service personnel
- ◇ **Radiological Drills and Exercises:**
Conducted nine training drills and exercises with numerous agencies and organizations
- ◇ **Public Outreach:**
Participated in nine public outreach events which included public safety and power plant safety, planning and preparedness.

MARINE SAFETY

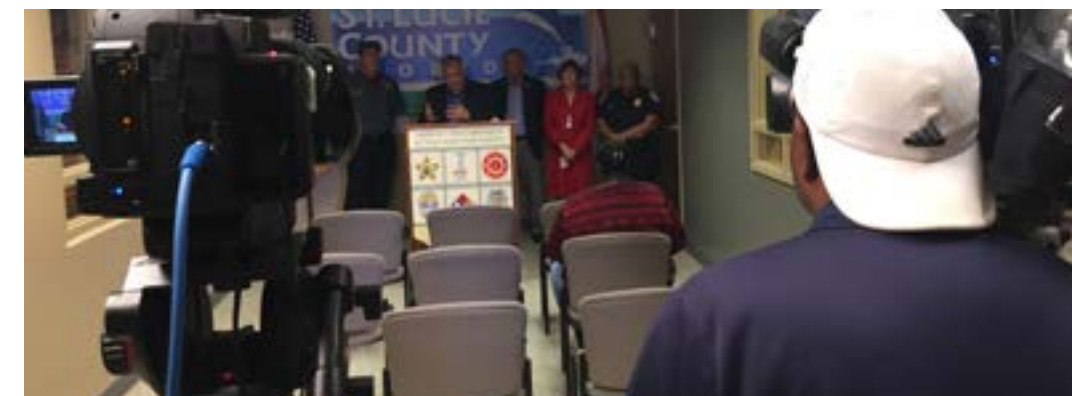
Provides lifeguard services to three designated beaches in St. Lucie County with a staff of 11 certified lifeguards.

- ◇ Monitored 444,820 beachgoers at the county's three lifeguarded beaches (Pepper Park, Waveland and South Beach Park)
- ◇ Rescued 29 patrons from rapid waters and rip currents.
- ◇ Provided medical aid to 19 beachgoers.
- ◇ During Hurricane Irma, all full-time Ocean Rescue Lifeguards assisted in the special needs shelter.
- ◇ Replaced all-terrain vehicle and housing for Ocean Rescue equipment.
- ◇ Reclassified positions to be competitive with surrounding jurisdictions.

ANIMAL CONTROL

With a staff of five, the Animal Control Division is responsible for enforcing the county ordinances and state statutes pertaining to animals. The personnel staff consists of one coordinator and four full-time officers..

- ◇ Handled 4,301 complaints, 221 bite cases, 79 vicious animal complaints and 239 investigated cruelty complaint.
- ◇ Transported 1,157 animals to the Humane Society.
- ◇ 460 pet licenses sold.
- ◇ 221 of spay/neuter voucher executed.
- ◇ Opened and operated the county's first Pet Friendly Shelter during
- ◇ Hurricane Irma, sheltering 73 pets/animals.



911 - CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS

A staff of 68 certified telecommunicators ensures that all 911 calls for the entire county are answered timely and dispatched to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Annual call volume of 491,423 calls for service.

- ◇ Updated the 911 System infrastructure equipment and software for NG911
- ◇ Recertification of all personnel
- ◇ Cross trained personnel
- ◇ Trained for hurricane and nuclear disaster drills
- ◇ Enabled Text to 911
- ◇ Reorganized personnel structure
- ◇ Hurricane Irma, sheltering 73 pets/animals.

800 MHZ RADIO SYSTEM

- ◇ One staff member manages and maintains the 800MHz radio system infrastructure which is utilized county-wide for law enforcement, fire district and governmental agency radio communications.
- ◇ Completed the Motorola Digital P25 upgrade to the 800 MHz radio infrastructure
- ◇ Regional relationship (MOU) agreement with Martin County for shared radio system completed
- ◇ Installed new 911 recording system for P25 compliance

SOLID WASTE DIVISION

St. Lucie County's Solid Waste Division employs 54 employees and serves the residents of St. Lucie County by operating the St. Lucie County Baling and Recycling Facility in an efficient, safe, and cost effective manner. The division manages the contracts for the collection and processing of solid waste and recyclable materials for residential and commercial establishments and develops programs necessary to facilitate an integrated and sustainable solid waste management program.

- ◇ Single-Stream Processing Facility – Through the upgrade to the Single Stream Processing Facility, Solid Waste has realized a cost savings in overtime of 90 percent.
- ◇ Recycling Facility - The participation and tonnages of recovered materials has increased in excess of 50 percent with the new program and continues to exceed expectations.
- ◇ Single Stream Facility Fire - Brought the Single-Stream Facility back into operation within 30 days of a major fire caused by a welder during the system upgrade.
- ◇ Mined 125,000 cubic yards of Construction & Demolition (C&D) cell creating 25,000 cubic yards of cover material with a value of \$237,500 at current low bid value of \$9.50 per cubic yard.
- ◇ Landfill Gas Collection System Expansion – completed the expansion of the Landfill Gas Collection System thereby increasing sales to Tropicana

Public Utilities

DEPARTMENT

UTILITIES DIVISION

Organized in 1994, St. Lucie County Utilities (SLCU) has established water, wastewater and reclaimed water to the unincorporated areas on North and South Hutchinson Island, on the Mainland North County area north and west of Fort Pierce, including the Treasure Coast International Airport and Business Park, and water service for Indian River Estates. With a staff of 10, as well as contractor Severn Trent, St. Lucie County Utilities currently provides service through two (2) water treatment plants and five (5) wastewater treatment facilities to an estimated population of 35,000.

- ◇ The change out meter program started with 1,811 manual meter reading meters and are being replaced with Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) meters. The change out meter program has been completed and the St Lucie County Utilities service area is 100 percent AMRs. The AMRs allow for quicker meter reading of the water

system usage and detecting possible leaks in the customer's plumbing. This helps water conservation efforts with reduced water loss.

- ◇ Rehabilitated wastewater lift stations and manholes throughout the system, improving overall performance and reducing infiltration of ground water. There were 33 out of 85 manholes in the North Hutchinson Island (NHI) Collection System, 30 out of 60 manhole in Airport Collection System and 63 out of 160 manholes in the North County Collection System were rehabilitated in FY16. A Lift Station Valve/Check Valve Replacement program has been started to replace old existing valves and check valves with four lift station being completed on SHI FY16.
- ◇ Beginning in June, 2016, an Online Utility Bill View, E-bill enrollment and Payment Portal were being created and is currently activated with approximately 470 customers enrolled and utilizing.

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

The Public Works Department consists of the following divisions and/or functions: Public Works Administration, Port Infrastructure, Artificial Reef Program, Engineering Division, Road and Bridge Division, and Water Quality Division.

ADMINISTRATION/PORT/ ARTIFICIAL REEF PROGRAM

Public Work Administration provides support to the various Public Works Divisions and to the general public.

PORT

- ◇ Port of Fort Pierce North 2nd Street Roadway Improvements
- ◇ Fisherman's Wharf Roadway Construction between North 2nd Street and Indian River Drive
- ◇ North 2ND Street Roadway Construction between Fisherman's Wharf Road and Seaway Drive
- ◇ Finish the first lift of asphalt construction on North 2nd Street and on Indian River Drive
- ◇ Complete final sections of roadway construction, curb and gutter, driveway aprons, and sidewalk



THE ARTIFICIAL REEF PROGRAM

- ◇ Deployed 1,000-ton secondary concrete artificial reef
- ◇ Deployed 32 Limestone Special artificial reef modules
- ◇ Deployed the 195' Dixie Barge
- ◇ Started permitting on the Indian Hills STA oyster reef
- ◇ Initiated Research Project with FAU-Harbour Branch
- ◇ Added 40 more enclosure cages to Moore's Creek and planted with Vallisneria Americana

ENGINEERING

The Engineering Division designs, permits and implements projects in stormwater management, transportation system enhancements and infrastructure maintenance. The Engineering Division implements the Capital Improvement Plan and the Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU) Program.

Midway Road Widening (Selvitz Road to 25th Street)

This project involved the widening Midway Road from Selvitz Road to South 25th Street from a two-lane to four-lane divided roadway. The four-lane divided roadway included four 12' wide travel lanes with bike lanes, a six-foot wide sidewalk on the north side and a 12' wide pathway on the south side of Midway Road. The project is approximately 1 mile in length. This project also included the widening of the intersection at Selvitz Road. The construction of three stormwater ponds is also included as part of the project.

Orange Avenue @ NSLRWCD Canal 411 Culvert Replacement Project

This project involved the replacement of the existing 2-48" Corrugated Metal Pipes across Orange Avenue with 14' X 6' Reinforced Concrete Box Culverts. Concrete endwalls were constructed on both ends of the box culverts with riprap rubble for slope stabilization. This project also included the construction of approximately 1,000 feet of shoulders on both sides of Orange Avenue connecting the shoulders constructed by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). The intersection was finished with the asphalt resurfacing of the intersection.



Kings Highway and Indrio Road Intersection Improvements

The improvements associated with the project include the widening of approximately 5,000 feet of North King's Highway and approximately 4,000 of Indrio Road, from 2 to 4 lanes. Roadway widening will include the addition of dedicated left and right turn lanes at this intersection. In addition to the added travel lanes, the project includes a 12 foot shared use path and 6 foot sidewalks throughout. Drainage improvements to the area include the construction of two new stormwater ponds; the relocation of approximately 1,900 feet of FPFWCD Canal #4 and the box culverting (9'x 6' box culvert) of approximately 1,300 feet of this same canal as it passes through the physical intersection area.

South Header Canal Road @ Canal 76 Emergency Culvert Replacement Project

This project involved the emergency replacement of the existing 66" X 76" Corrugated Metal Pipe across South Header Canal Road that was failing after Hurricane Irma. 72" Reinforced Concrete Pipes were installed to replace the failing pipe. Riprap rubble were placed on both ends of the pipes for slope stabilization.



ROAD AND BRIDGE

The Road and Bridge Division is responsible for maintenance and repair of county roadways and drainage facilities. The Maintenance Section is responsible for maintenance of paved, chip sealed, asphalt milled and dirt roads. Road maintenance includes right-of-way mowing, surface patching, shoulder repair, and grading of dirt roads. The Drainage Sections is responsible for maintenance and repair of roadside swales, ditches and underground drainage facilities. The Traffic Section is responsible for designing new traffic signals; maintenance, repair and operation of existing traffic signals; fabrication and installation of regulatory, warning and street signs; pavement striping and marking; and performing traffic counts and studies.

- ♦ 7 dirt roads received an asphalt milling surface treatment more than 1.7 miles.
- ♦ 20 roads were micro-surfaced and re-striped more than 20 miles.
- ♦ Performed traffic signal rehabilitation and upgrades at 2 intersections.
- ♦ Fabricated 2,285 and installed 2,248 traffic and street signs.

WATER QUALITY

The Water Quality Division's mission is to manage county stormwater systems to prevent flooding and property damage and to protect water quality for the safety and enjoyment of our residents and for the preservation of the environment and enhancement of wildlife habitat. The Water Quality Division reviews, inspects and approves stormwater permits and driveway permits for new development and redevelopment as required by the St. Lucie County Land Development Code. The Water Quality Division is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Platt's Creek stormwater treatment area and the Indian River Estates pump station. The Water Quality Division manages a construction crew that performs drainage retrofits and maintenance in existing neighborhoods to enhance water quality treatment and flood control. The Water Quality Division oversees the management and operation of the contractor performing the enhanced swale maintenance program, which ensures that routine maintenance is performed on existing drainage swales throughout the County. The Water Quality Division manages the County stormwater management system overseen by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System program.

PARADISE PARK SYSTEM 5 PHASE 4

The water quality construction has continued construction on the fourth phase of Paradise Park Stormwater Improvements. This phase will include surface water restoration to reduce freshwater and pollutants discharge into the Indian River Lagoon for 49+/- acres of the Paradise Park neighborhood. Eight of the ten interconnected dry detention ponds as well as the outfall to Taylor Creek were constructed, and more than 2,500 feet of storm piping has been installed. Roadside swales were completed for approximately 70% of the project area. The project is being funded through a trio of granting sources:

- ♦ Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program (IRLNEP) Grant: \$125,000
- ♦ Florida Department of Environmental Protection Grant: \$304,448.48
- ♦ State of Florida Legislative Appropriation: \$225,000
- ♦ Replaced all-terrain vehicle and housing for Ocean Rescue equipment.
- ♦ Reclassified positions to be competitive with surrounding jurisdictions.

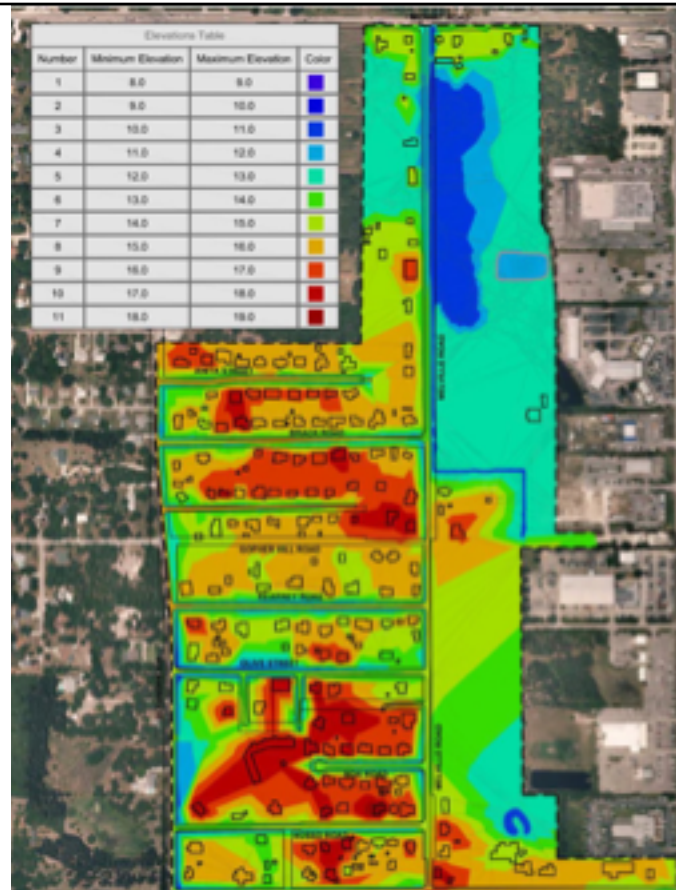
PROJECT

St. Lucie County participated in a hydrologic and hydraulic model of the Savannas State Preserve area. This model will focus on alleviating community flooding, optimizing water management operations and improving natural habitats within the State preserve. The first phase of the project will build an existing conditions hydrologic model in an effort to identify and define areas deficient in typical level of service standards, and develop alternatives for operations flexibilities. This project has multiple partners including the City of Fort Pierce, the City of Port St. Lucie, The Florida Parks Service and Martin County, among others. A final report will be delivered in 2018 with recommendations to operational structures or physical changes to create a more efficient system.



SAN LUCIE PLAZA BASIN 2A

The San Lucie Plaza Subdivision comprises approximately 175 acres and about 250 homes located along the intersection of North 25th Street and St. Lucie Boulevard adjacent to and slightly upstream of the confluence of Ft. Pierce Farms Canal 1 and Taylor Creek. A small portion of this area is located within the Taylor Creek floodplain. The subdivision was platted in 1925 and began to develop in the 1960s before State water quality regulations were developed. The area has poor storm water conveyances and no storm water treatment or flood attenuation. During rain events, storm water outfalls directly into Canal 1 and Taylor Creek, which discharges into the Indian River Lagoon located approximately one-quarter mile downstream. The design of the Basin 2A project within San Lucie Plaza includes the improvement of Cherokee Avenue and portions of Hugo Road as well as the construction of a 0.83 acres dry detention area to treat surface runoff prior to discharge into Taylor Creek. The design was completed and was advertised for competitive bids, with construction to begin in the first quarter of 2018, and it is expected to take 6 months to complete construction. The County performed public outreach by mailing flyers and relevant project information to the affected property owners as well as walking the neighborhood with door knockers and speaking with residents

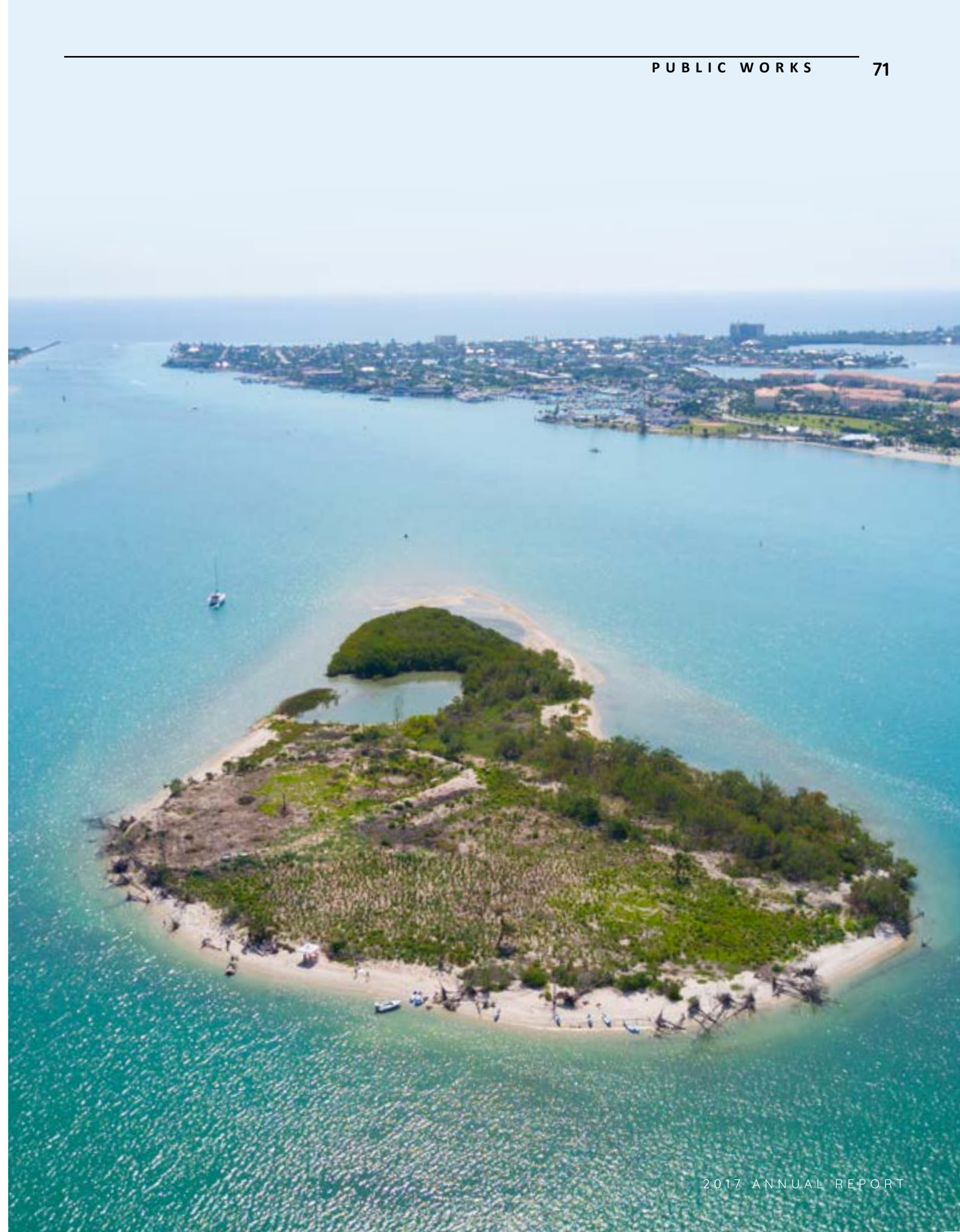


MELVILLE ROAD NEIGHBORHOOD STORMWATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The project consists of improvements to an approximately 80-acre eastern half of an existing neighborhood in White City, south of Midway Road and east of Oleander Avenue where residents observe flooding along Melville Road and connecting off-streets during major storm events. The existing drainage system consists of poorly connected swales and ditches leading to North Saint Lucie River Water Control District's (NSLRWCD) C19 Canal and eventually draining into the North Fork of the Saint Lucie River. St Lucie County successfully acquired a 14-acre parcel to detain and treat stormwater flows from the eastern half of the neighborhood in 2017. Full Engineering design work is anticipated to begin in 2018 and will result in a plans that can be constructed in-house or using the competitive bid process when funding is appropriated.

ENHANCED SWALE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

The Water Quality Division continued the swale maintenance program with specific attention to outfall pipes in the Lakewood Park neighborhood. Targeted efforts removed and replaced several thousand feet of corroded and failed drainage pipe and structures. Improvements to the serviceability of the system were made by adding additional manholes and structures.





ST. LUCIE COUNTY FLORIDA



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